

SuperNEWSTM

by Sorcim

SECOND QUARTER 1982 ISSUE NO. 1

NEWSLETTER

Hi,

This is our first newsletter! We will be publishing these newsletters on a quarterly basis. We think you'll find them a useful aid to your use of Sorcim products.

We are including articles that will give you: new applications, useful information, template building information, computer show info, and other treasures from our programmers and development personnel.

If there are specific types of articles or information you'd like to see in SuperNews, please let us know on the attached Questionnaire.

And What's More... Free to the first 50 people to return their questionnaire - a Sorcim T-shirt! Remember, to get your T-shirt, yours must be one of the first 50 questionnaires we receive. In our next newsletter, we will publish the names of our 50 winners.

SuperCalc + IBM = SuperSheet

Sorcim is currently shipping the long-awaited versions of the SuperCalc* program for the IBM Personal Computer and DisplayWriter. These versions make use of the extended memory capabilities of the IBM hardware, turning the SuperCalc worksheet into a SuperSheet* with a greatly expanded worksheet.

The new version will also have some enhancements. Among these are:

- Save, Partial - to save those BIG worksheets onto your diskettes.
- eXecute - to execute SuperCalc command files.

The SuperCalc program for the PC can utilize up to 512K of memory, running under the IBM DOS operating system without modification. The SuperCalc program produces a full color display when used with a PC having color capabilities. Negative numbers, protected areas, and error messages are color coded for easy identification. The program is sold on a 5-1/4" diskette.

The SuperCalc program with SuperSheet for the IBM DisplayWriter runs under CP/M-86. Supplied on an 8" disk, it can make use of a full 256k of RAM.

The SuperCalc program requires a minimum of 64k memory on either IBM system. The suggested retail price for SuperCalc is \$295.



NEW PRODUCT!

ANNOUNCING FROM SORCIM

SUPERWRITER

The SuperWriter* program is a fully integrated text processing system which provides you with the ability to create, edit, and print reports, letters, and other documents -- without lengthy, repetitive typing. The SuperWriter program also performs powerful print merge (form letter generation) as well as proofreading documents for spelling errors.

And it runs on the IBM Personal Computer!

The SuperWriter program is backed by the same careful documentation, thorough testing, and committed support as the rest of the Sorcim line.

This truly comprehensive program of text handling functions for the microcomputer user is coming at an easy-to-handle price, only \$395. This product will run under the IBM DOS operating system. It will be released at the end of the third quarter.

LOOK FOR SUPERWRITER

ITS COMING SOON TO YOUR LOCAL DEALER

Super Data Interchange

Sorcim's own data interchange format for SuperCalc users will be available in the near future. This will allow you to convert your CAL files to a format useable by other programs and back again. This will take the form of a conversion program. Two file formats will be supported: comma separated and Super Data Interchange format. SDI also supports the conversion from DIF* to CAL. Exact prices and release dates are coming soon. Watch in your magazines for this new product announcement.

The AnswerKey

This is the AnswerKey* column. This column will be used to answer the questions you ask most often and to provide tips on how to best use Sorcim's products.

In this issue, we will cover two of the Global options used in the SuperCalc program, Border and Tab. We'll describe what they are and how they work.

Border

Have you ever wanted to print your reports without having the border (the letters and numbers that define the coordinate grid) print out as well? Well, there is a simple way to do this.

Type "/" to start the command. Then type "G" for the Global options. Next, type "B" for Border. This will remove the borders from the display. They will also be absent on the print-out. To turn the borders on (after having turned them off), repeat the procedure outlined above, i.e., type "/GB".

Note: Each window (if using split windows) has its own format. The borders may be turned on and off independently of each other.

Tab

When having other people enter data into a template (a blank worksheet with formulas and titles, but no data) that you have created, it is often useful to guide them through the process of entering data. This prevents data from mistakenly being entered into other areas of the worksheet. This is done by using two commands present in the SuperCalc program, Protect and Tab.

First, when setting up the template, remember to place "null" data in any cell which will later hold valid data. This means to enter a zero (0) wherever numbers will later be entered and a blank (a double quote and then a space) wherever text will later be entered. (The explanation for this will follow.)

Next, protect all of the cells in the worksheet except those in which the data has yet to be entered. Now, set the cursor direction arrow (in the lower left corner of the screen) to point to the right by using a CTRL-D or the right arrow.

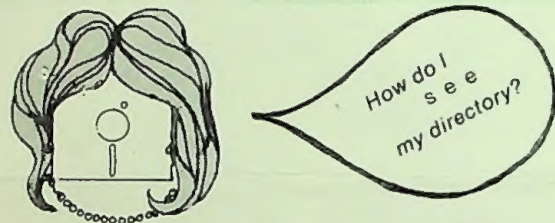
Note: If the direction arrow is absent from the screen, you probably have the Auto-next function disabled. This is the function that allows (or doesn't allow) you to move from one cell to the next by entering data or pressing CR. To toggle this option, type "/GN" for Global Next.

Now type "=A1" to go to the upper left hand corner of your worksheet. Next, type "/GT" for Global Tab. Save your worksheet and it's ready for data entry. By setting the Tab function on the worksheet, the cursor will skip all protected and blank cells (this is the explanation for entering null data - see paragraph 2 of this section). When the User wishes to enter data into the worksheet, he simply loads it, and

enters the data item by item. The program will automatically step from one cell to the next, only stopping at cells in which data may be entered. When reaching the end of the worksheet, the cursor will not advance any further. To edit data which has already been entered, use the left arrow key to move backwards and the right arrow key to move forwards again. The cursor will automatically go to the beginning of the next line when the last cell in a line has been reached.

If you want to enter data vertically instead of horizontally, use the up and down arrows instead of the left and right arrows. You may also set the initial direction to down by typing a down arrow before the "=A1" step described above.

When the User has finished entering the data, the worksheet should be saved under a new name (this prevents the blank template from being destroyed). To access this data, load in the worksheet and type "/GT". You will then be able to move freely all around the worksheet once again.



Viewing the Directory from SuperCalc

When using the SuperCalc program, it is often desirable to view the CP/M* directory. This may be done from the SuperCalc program. The option-menu for viewing the directory is accessible in three convenient places in the program. These are:

1. When using the /Save command.
2. When using the /Load command.
3. When using the /Delete,File command.

Press return instead of entering a filename. The Directory option-menu is then displayed in place of the normal worksheet as follows:

Directory Display for SuperCalc, work disk is A
Current working file is : NONE

Options:

C(hoose) alternate disk drive
D(isk) directory, All files
S(upercalc) format files only

CTRL-Z to return to worksheet...

The portion "Work disk is " will show the current active disk drive. This is the drive referenced in directory operations only, not for file loads and saves. (continued on next page)

Viewing the Directory (cont'd from pg 2)

The portion "Current working file is " will show the filename last loaded from the disk.

To choose an alternate disk drive to view, type a "C" (choose). The prompt "Drive to use :" will be displayed. Now, enter a letter between A and P that represents the drive you wish to use. The letter may be typed in upper or lower case. You do not need to press return. The new drive will now be displayed on the top line. To view the normal CP/M directory, type "D". The screen will clear and the filenames will be displayed as follow:

```

Directory of files on Disk :
  DDT      .com    ED      .com    (etc.)
  └──┬──┘      └──┬──┘
   File 1      File 2

```

The filenames are displayed five names across on an 80 column screen. (Fewer files fit on narrower screens.) SuperCalc translates all filenames to upper case and all extensions to lower case with these exceptions:

1. The first letter of the extension is upper case, if the file has been set to Read Only (R/O) with the CP/M Stat command.
2. The second letter of the extension is upper case, if the System attribute of the file has been set with the CP/M Stat command. This means the file does not show with the CP/M DIR command.

More information about file attributes can be found in the CP/M manual under the Stat command.

The files displayed are only those which are in the currently logged User number. On systems where different User numbers are being used, these results may vary. Some custom implementations may have patches for making User 0 common. This will display User 0 files as well as the current User number.

If there are more files than can be displayed on the screen at one time, the program will pause with "More..." displayed until a character has been typed on the keyboard. This will continue until all files have been displayed. The prompt will then be "press return to continue...". Typing any character will return you to the directory option-menu.

Often you will only want to view the SuperCalc files (those with the default .CAL extension). This is done by selecting the "S" option of the directory option-menu. The filenames will be displayed in the following format:

```

SUPERCALC directory of files on disk :
Filename      Creation Comment
BALANCE .CAL  SuperCalc version 1.06
This is a sample SuperCalc worksheet

```

This displays the filename and its extension. Next, the version of SuperCalc it was last saved under is listed. Then, the comment is listed. (This is whatever was in cell A1 when the file was last saved. It acts as a file identifier.)

When you have finished using the directory option-menu, you may return to your worksheet by typing a CTRL-Z or a CTRL-C. (Do this while the options are being displayed.)

Customer Support

Our purpose here at Sorcim Customer Support is to help you! We believe that we have the best customer support in the micro-computer software industry.

We mail information to you as quickly as possible. But, we are only human. Due to the large volume of phone calls and mail received, we are sometimes swamped. We'll do our best to get back to you if our lines are tied up here in Customer Support (leave your name and phone number with the receptionist).

If you have any questions, technical or otherwise, please feel free to call us. We have information on applications, new releases, upcoming products, dealers in your area, and many other things.

Our hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
The phone number is (408) 727-7634.

Current Releases

SuperCalc	version 1.06
	(on Xerox 820 only 1.07)
ACT* assemblers	version 3.5F
Pascal/M*	version 4.04
Pascal/M-86*	version 4.04



User's Corner

This corner is for any User's Group Announcements that you may wish to be seen by other users. Send us the information on your club letterhead and we will place it in the User's Corner. Announcements subject to editor approval.

Using Super Calc PRN Files

When using SuperCalc, it is often valuable to be able to exchange information between SuperCalc and other programs. (A specific application of this would be to include or merge a SuperCalc worksheet with a report generated by a word processor.) Currently, the only way to do this is to output the information to a disk file. The procedure to do this is as follows:

1. While in SuperCalc, load in the worksheet which contains the data you wish to have in the merged document. Remember to do a "/Zap" first to get rid of any data that you may have on your worksheet.
2. Enter "/O" for the output command. If you want the display to be output as shown on the screen, type "D" for Display. (Typing "C" for Contents will give a cell by cell list of the contents of each cell.)
3. Enter "ALL" for the range if you wish to output the entire worksheet. Using "ALL" is easier than entering A1:D10 if D10 is your last used cell, "Last row/col". Enter the range if you wish to print a range.

Note: Using "ALL" is valid wherever you are asked for a range which may also include a block.

4. "Enter Device: P(rinter), S(etup), C(onsole), or D(isk)?"
5. You will then be prompted to enter the filename. When the filename has been entered, the default extension .PRN will be added if no period is entered in the filename.

The file is then opened, the data written out and the file closed. (The data in the file contains no tab or formfeed characters and has been output row by row exactly as if it had gone to the printer.)

This file may now be edited or merged with a text document by using a word processor. This is useful if large amounts of text are to be printed along with the data. If you do not wish to print certain columns, they may be deleted with a word processor before printing.

Special Note: When opening the disk file for outputting data, if the filename used already exists, you will be prompted as follows:

Change, Overwrite, Backup

If you enter "C" for Change file name, you will be allowed to edit or re-enter the filename. If you choose "O" for Overwrite, the old file will be deleted, and the new file overwritten onto it. When choosing "B" for Backup, the old file is renamed to Filename.bak and the new file is written with the original filename.

It is best to choose "B" for Backup as this will not destroy any file you may already have. The above procedure also applies when executing the /Save command.

SuperCalc Book Available

Now available, from Management Information Source, is a book designed to further acquaint you with the SuperCalc program. This book, "The Power of SuperCalc," includes hands-on examples of various template-building techniques.

The book covers most of the SuperCalc commands. It is now available from:

Management Information Source
1626 N. Vancouver Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97227
(503) 287-1462

Suggested retail price is \$9.95.
(\$11.16 total with handling)

Sorcim SuperTools

A.C.T. Assemblers

The ACT family of cross-assemblers includes versions for a variety of CPU's. These are all full-macro assemblers with conditional assembly. The code generated is non-relocatable Intel-format HEX file.

Pascal/M Compiler

Sorcim's Pascal compiler is a P-Code interpreter based on the Jensen & Wirth definition of the Pascal programming language. It uses 14 digit full floating-point arithmetic and contains a full symbolic debugger.

Pascal Corner

We are devoting this corner of the Newsletter to keeping you informed about our Pascal/M products.

Here is something you may not know. When you finish debugging a program, recompile the program with R-, D-, on the command line. This will prevent generation of range-checking and debug code. This not only makes the P-Code file smaller, but improves execution speed by up to 40%.

Pascal/M Update Available

The latest version of Pascal/M is now available, and all known bugs have been fixed. We have released for 8080/286 and 8086/88 based systems at the same time. The new update will be version 4.04. The update is available for a nominal fee. For an update, contact Customer Support.

Watch for Pascal/M-86 on the IBM PC!

COMING SOON

Warranty / Licensing

Have you sent in your Registration/Licensing card yet? If you received this newsletter in the mail, you probably have. If not, you should send it in as soon as possible.

Our disks are warranted to be readable by your machine for a period of 90 days. If for some reason your disks are not readable, see your dealer or call Customer Support for a return authorization number.

NOTE: Your license allows you to use the SuperCalc program on a single computer system with only one user. If you are running MP/M* or a shared hard disk system, you are in violation of your licensing agreement.

Sorcim has addressed the issue of multi-user licensing. Sorcim's Multi-User Licensing Plan for SuperCalc is as follows:

The initial copy of SuperCalc is \$295.00. Each additional terminal per site (in a multi-user system) is \$50. This price does not include the manual. If you have further questions, please call your dealer.

Protecting your Diskettes

The software diskettes that carry the information for your computer are fragile and contain very expensive and important data; they should be handled carefully. Here are some basic "do's" and "don'ts" for the proper care of your diskettes.

Don't touch the exposed shiny surfaces! Fingerprints on diskettes can cause loss of stored information.

Keep all diskettes in protective envelopes! When diskettes are received, they come with protective envelopes (if an envelope is missing, ask the dealer for one). When not in use, diskettes should remain in their envelopes to protect them from dust particles and to keep hands from accidentally touching the areas which contain data.

Do not bend diskettes! Keep diskettes from being folded or crinkled in any way.

Keep diskettes away from liquid! Diskettes are not waterproof. If you spill water or other liquid (e.g., tea, coffee) on a diskette, it may be ruined.

Keep diskettes away from magnets! While magnets are fun to use, they spell disaster when placed next to diskettes. Magnets wipe diskettes clean--they erase the data.

These are some of the more basic ways to care for your diskettes. There may be other instructions listed on the back of the diskette envelopes. Please take the time to read and follow these instructions to insure the long life of your diskettes.

Update Policy

Due to the large number of SuperCalc users, it is impossible to let everyone know individually when a new version is available. This newsletter is the main avenue by which we will notify you, the User, of the existence of new versions. If you would like to know more, please call the Customer Support group for details.

Updates to later versions are available at a nominal fee. Your registration card MUST be on file in order for us to update your current version.

Please call Customer Support for a return authorization number and further instructions before sending in any materials for an update.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT (408) 727-7634

This Space is for you...

TO ADVERTISE

IN SUPERNEWS...

CALL (408) 727-7634

Retail Price List

The currently suggested retail price list for all Sorcim products is as follows. This includes all formats.

Product	Price
On CP/M 80, 86	
SuperCalc	\$295
SuperWriter**	\$395
On IBM PC	
SuperCalc	\$295
SuperWriter**	\$395
On IBM DisplayWriter	
SuperCalc	\$295
Other products	
Pascal/M	\$395
Pascal/M-86	\$495
Trans-86	\$175
ACT assemblers	
(8080/8085/Z80; 6800;	
6502; 6809; 8086/88) each	\$175

**Available at end of third quarter.

***TRADEMARKS:**

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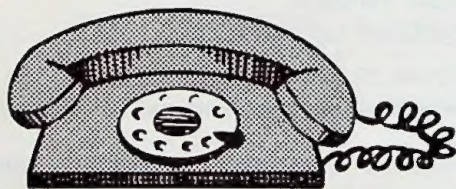
CUSTOMER SUPPORT

HELP US TO HELP YOU!!!

When calling Sorcim Customer Support, please have the serial number and version of the program you are using ready. This will help by giving us pertinent information on your specific copy. The best place to get this information in from the master diskette that you purchased.

Our purpose here at Sorcim Customer Support is to help you! We believe that we have the best customer support in the micro-computer software industry.

Our hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
The phone number is (408) 942-0522.



Sorcim wishes you a



Articles, advertisements, applications and views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of Sorcim Corporation.

RETAIL PRICE LIST

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<i>Product</i>	<i>Price</i>
On CP/M 80, 86	
SuperCalc	\$195
SuperWriter	\$295
Super SpellGuard	\$195
On IBM PC	
SuperCalc	\$195
SuperWriter	\$295
Super SpellGuard	\$195
On IBM DisplayWriter	
SuperCalc	\$195
Other products	
Pascal/M	\$395
Pascal/M-86	\$495
Trans-86	\$175
ACT assemblers (8080/8085/Z80; 6800; 6502; 6809; 8086/88)	each \$175

ARE YOU MOVING?

If you have moved recently or are planning to move soon, please fill out the change of address form below and return it to SuperNews. We want to keep you informed of new updates, new products and good news!

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME		
STREET		APT. NO.
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PRODUCTS		
SERIAL NO.(S) MUST BE INCLUDED		

SuperNews™

by Sorcim®

1983 VOL. 2 ISSUE NO. 1

SuperCalc²™

is here!

GOOD NEWS IS WORTH WAITING FOR

We waited until now to send you this issue of SuperNews so we could provide you with the latest word on our new products and update policy. We're sorry for the delay. We know you will agree that it was worth waiting for.

Here's the good news!

- 1) SuperCalc²™ is now available for the IBM PC and PC XT. Other formats will follow shortly. See article below.
- 2) SuperWriter™, our Word Processing Program, is also available now for the IBM PC and PC XT. Other formats will follow. See article on this page.
- 3) SuperCalc's new suggested retail price is \$195. See page 14 for details on how to update to SuperCalc².

SuperWriter™

Writing With Ease

Now available for the IBM Personal Computer

SuperWriter—the complete word processing system from Sorcim is now available for the IBM Personal Computer. It will be available for most other computer systems in the very near future. Loaded with all of the latest features in word processing packages, SuperWriter allows you to create, edit, print and verify spelling in all of your documents.

Powerful editing capabilities are always right at your fingertips. The SuperWriter program makes use of the special function keys on your terminal keyboard, giving your computer features ordinarily found only on dedicated word processors.

SuperWriter assists you in preparing your documents in two very effective ways. First, the SuperWriter *menus* lead you through the program options. They take you all the way from creating or editing a document through to proofreading for possible spelling errors and then printing it. Second, the *AnswerKey*™ provides instant help on the screen any time you need it. Just press the AnswerKey and SuperWriter will respond instantly describing all of your available options. Then, when you are ready to continue, SuperWriter will return you to your document.

(continued on next page)

SuperCalc²™

SPREADSHEET PROGRAM
IS UP AND RUNNING!

(Now available for the IBM PC and IBM PC XT—
other formats to follow shortly.)

SuperCalc²™ offers a number of new features, such as date arithmetic and calendar functions, consolidation, sorting by rows or columns, enhanced formatting capabilities, more print options, greatly increased speed, and much more. It also utilizes the color, hard disk and expanded memory on both the IBM PC and PC XT.



(See article on Page 13 for more details about the
new SuperCalc² features.)

**NEW
PRODUCTS**

SuperWriter™
WRITING WITH EASE

(continued from page 1)

Editing

The SuperWriter editor gives you quick and easy control in writing or changing your work. You use simple one-key commands at your fingertips to insert or delete letters, words or paragraphs. You can easily rearrange or duplicate portions of your document or copy a block of text from one document to another.

Spelling Checker

The Spelling Checker feature proofreads your documents for misspelled words using its 20,000+ word dictionary. After comparing all of the words in your document to the words in this dictionary, words that do not match or are not found in the dictionary can be added to the dictionary or marked for your review. Then, when you're ready, SuperWriter will take you directly to these words in your document so that they can be corrected. You can construct your own supplemental dictionaries and add or delete words from SuperWriter's main dictionary.

Document History

The SuperWriter program allows you to create a complete document history that becomes an important and permanent part of each document. You can specify the author's name, the date the file was created, the date it was last edited and a brief comment about the file.

SuperWriter also keeps track of edit settings for each document, remembering line lengths, tab settings, and special edit characteristics.

Special Print Controls

SuperWriter's print controls are initially preset for typical printing requirements. You can easily change the print settings using special print "commands" entered either within the document or at print time from your computer. You can specify the margins, page length, paragraph indentation, line spacing and much more.

SuperWriter utilizes the full capability of your printer. For example, if your printer is capable of doing special print functions, you can underscore, boldface, create subscripts and superscripts, do true proportional printing, microjustify and specify different pitches. And, SuperWriter has the ability to "spool" documents, so you can print one document while editing another.

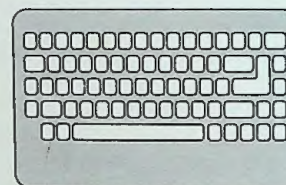
(continued on page 11)

**SuperWriter's
Main Menu**

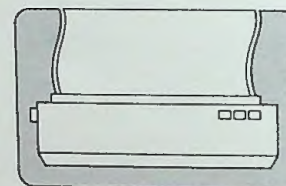
Main Menu:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| — EDIT | document |
| — QUIT | return to System |
| — PRINT | document |
| — CHECK | spelling |
| — DISK | directory |
| — UTILITIES | |

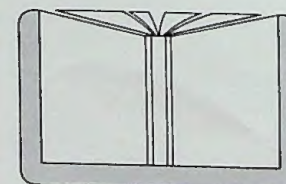
Edit



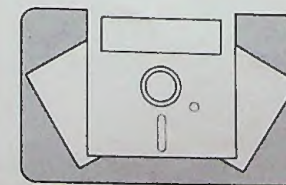
Print



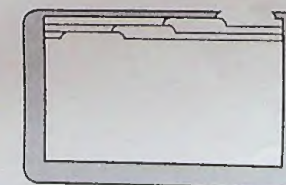
Check Spelling



Disk Directory



Utilities



THE ANSWERKEY

RECALCULATION (!) PLEASE

When you use the SuperCalc program to do financial planning or forecasting, you will undoubtedly be making up your own worksheet templates. You will enter the formulas into the cell. Then, someone else will enter data into the template to see what results occur. Presto! The results will be there. After entering new data, the SuperCalc program will automatically recalculate the formulas and display the new results. However, these results may not be correctly calculated, at first.

When entering data, the cells on the left side of the worksheet may not *seem* to have the correct values. (This is especially noticable when you enter a new value into a cell to see the effect.) The problem is not in the SuperCalc program, it is in the layout of the template.

The source of the problem is referred to as a "forward reference formula". A forward reference formula is one which depends upon values of other formulas which have not yet been calculated. Set up this quick example to illustrate the problem and the solution.

1. Set up a worksheet with the following formulas:

In cell:	Enter:
A1	B1 * 5
B1	C1 * 5
C1	5

The 5 in C1 is the data that may have been entered after the template (the formulas in A1 and B1) had been entered.

2. Observe what happens:

A	B	C
1	0	25 5

Question:

Why after entering the 5 in cell C1 did the worksheet calculate incorrectly? Shouldn't A1 have been a 125 instead of 0 ($25 * 5 = 125$)?

Answer:

When the value for A1 was calculated, the value in B1 was 0 ($0 * 5 = 0$). Then, the value in B1 was calculated. (But A1 was already calculated with B1 = 0—not 25.)

(continued in next column)

Solution: The Recalculation Key (!).

Press the "!" key. Presto! Now the value in A1 is correct.

3. Now enter 10 in cell C1.

Again, the value in B1 will recalculate correctly, but the value in A1 will not be correct. Press "!" and presto!

You can press the recalculation key after each entry...

or you can lay the worksheet out differently.

(See following article "Row-Wise vs. Column-Wise" for additional related information.)

ROW-WISE VS. COLUMN-WISE CALCULATION

When constructing a worksheet, where the values generated in a particular cell are to be used in a cell *below* this cell, take note of the following: The SuperCalc program calculates (adds, subtracts, etc.) from left to right across the rows (i.e. first it calculates A1, B1, C1 then A2, B2, C2, etc.). This is the default or start-up setting of the SuperCalc program, ROW-WISE Calculation.

If your worksheet is not organized as rows, but as columns, you may find yourself having to press the manual recalculation key (!) on occasion. The SuperCalc program can, however, be set to calculate by columns (instead of rows) by typing the following:

/GC

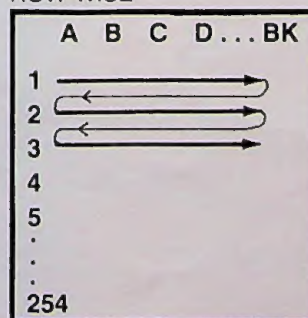
This sets the SuperCalc program for COLUMN-WISE calculation (i.e. first calculate A1, A2, A3 then B1, B2, B3), instead of the default of ROW-WISE.

To return to ROW-WISE if you find that COLUMN-WISE does not help (your formulas were really row oriented) type:

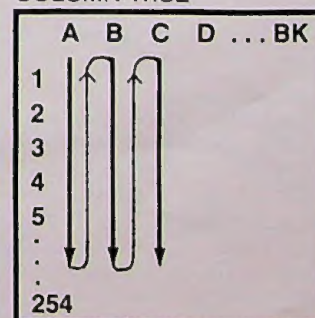
/GR.

Always test your newly created template with known values to verify that the formulas are indeed correct and yield the correct results.

ROW-WISE



COLUMN-WISE



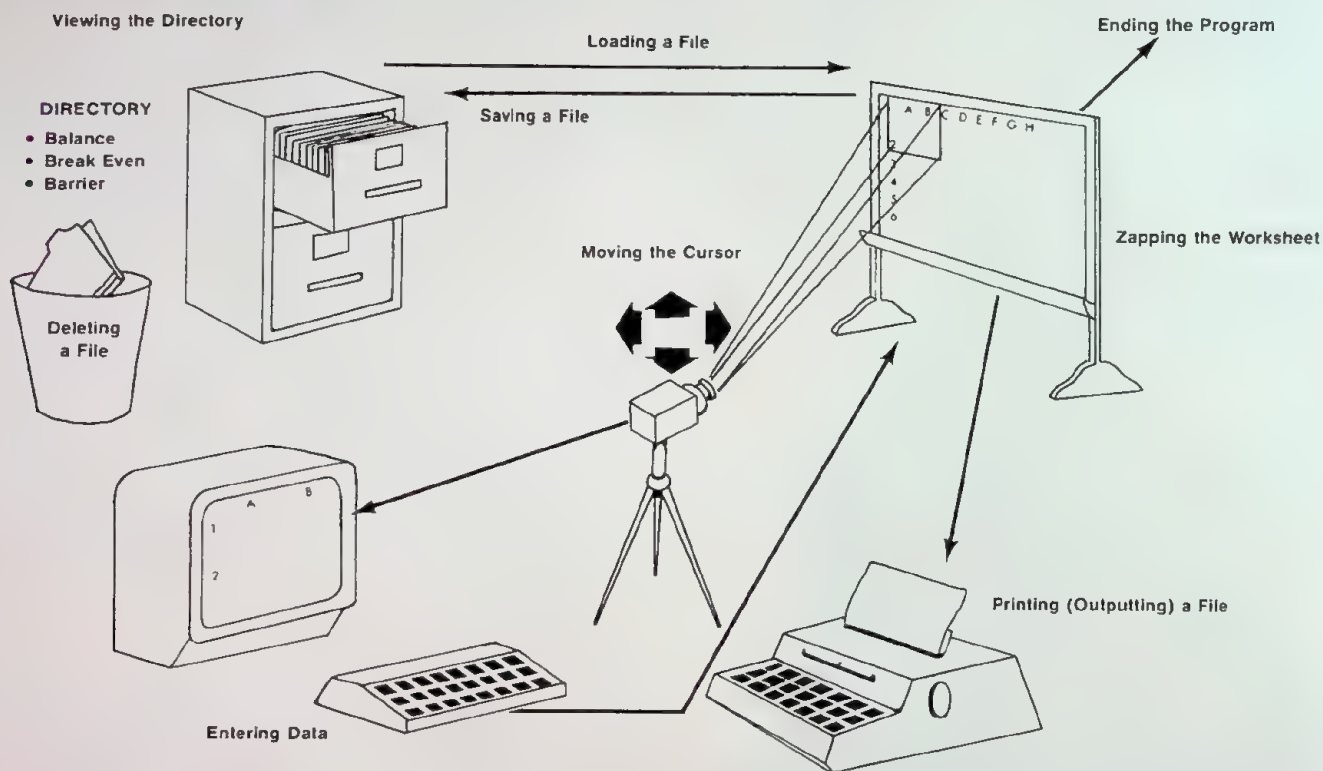
BEGINNER'S CORNER

THE SUPERCALC CONCEPT

Here's a description of how the SuperCalc program operates. For those of you who are familiar with SuperCalc this approach may shed some new light on the program

The blackboard represents the worksheet, the space that is available to be filled.

(See definitions of captions listed below.)



Zapping the Worksheet

At any point you may clear any old data on the worksheet with the /Zap command. This is like erasing the blackboard

Entering Data

As you enter data from the keyboard, it will be placed on the blackboard at the location indicated by the pointer

Moving the Cursor

The camera represents your view of the worksheet. The camera may be moved to view different portions of the worksheet. The view of the camera is displayed on a monitor similar to the one on your computer

Viewing the Directory

When getting a file from the filing cabinet, you often thumb through many folders to find the one you want. We may view the contents of the filing cabinet with the Directory option of the /Load command by typing /Load and pressing return instead of entering a filename

Loading a File

You may retrieve a template from the filing cabinet (diskette) with the /Load command

Printing (Outputting) a File

When you want a hard copy on paper of the material on the blackboard, you use the /Output command to produce a printout (on paper) of the worksheet

Deleting a File

After having no further use for a file, you may remove it from the filing cabinet and destroy it permanently (unless there is another copy somewhere else) with the /Delete,File command

Saving a File

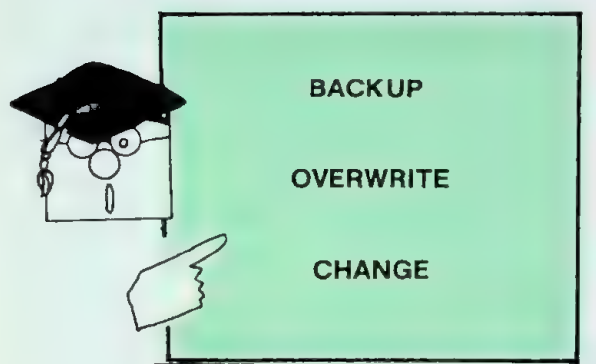
If you had a template already loaded or created, you could store this file into the filing cabinet with the /Save command.

Ending the Program

When done with the work for the day, we may leave the room. In this case this means to exit the program. This is done by typing /Quit,Yes

BEGINNER'S CORNER (con't)

COMPUTER LINGO



The Overwrite and Backup commands are used when you are saving a file to the disk. If there is already a file with the same name, the SuperCalc program will ask you to either **Backup** the file, **Overwrite** the file, or **Change** the filename.

These terms are used in the Save or Output commands:

BACKUP

When you choose *Backup* two things happen. First, the SuperCalc program renames the file that already exists to the same name with the extension ".BAK". Then the new file is written to disk with the extension ".CAL". The back-up file contains the original data you input; it does not contain any of the additions or corrections included that you have just done (since the last Save). When viewing the directory, the "S" directory option will show all of the ".CAL" files on the disk. When viewing the directory with the "D" option, both of the files will be shown (".CAL" and ".BAK").

OVERWRITE

When you choose *Overwrite* you are actually deleting the previous file and substituting a new one in its place. So there will always be only one file with that name (".CAL").

CHANGE

When you choose *Change* you are again allowed to edit the filename with the cursor control. When the name is how you would like it, you may press the return key to enter the new name and the Save will continue.

It is recommended that when saving your SuperCalc files, you use the *Backup* command. This gives you a second copy of the information which can be used in case you accidentally erase or damage the original file. Although the back-up copy won't contain all of the latest changes, it will be better than starting from scratch.

NEW OSBORNE USER'S GROUP

Announcing...

The Vancouver Island Osborne Group

We are pleased to announce the formation of the Vancouver Island Osborne Group. Founded in July 1982, they now have a total of 60 members. Most are also members of FOG (First Osborne Group).

The Vancouver Island Osborne Group just published its first newsletter. Interesting and informative, the newsletter will be published monthly.

Although the group membership resides in all areas of Vancouver Island, the majority is centered in the capitol city of British Columbia. Their meetings are held on every third Thursday of the month at the Saanich Public Library. They would be pleased to hear from other users groups and extend to them their full cooperation.

Whether you own an Osborne or not, you are most welcome to join the Vancouver Island Osborne Group (VIOG). (One-time registration fee of \$20.) For further information contact:

Jack Walraven
President
Vancouver Island Osborne Group
2840 Liegh Rd.
Victoria, B.C. CANADA
V9B 4G3





WHAT "IF" STATEMENT?

Have you ever looked at the Conditional Logic (IF STATEMENT) section of your manual and said to yourself, "That looks like the analysis I want to use in my spreadsheet, but I sure don't have the programming knowledge to do that kind of work!" Well, guess what... you do. SuperCalc was designed with the idea that you shouldn't have to be a programmer to use it. So given these few tips and examples, we are sure you'll master this aspect of your worksheet.

"IF STATEMENTS" are easy to work with when you remember these few simple pointers:

"IF" STATEMENTS

1. IF STATEMENTS LOOK LIKE THIS:
IF (Expression A, Expression B, Expression C)
2. THEY READ AS FOLLOWS:
If Expression A is true then use Expression B.
If Expression A is false then use Expression C.
3. IN OTHER WORDS:
If Expression A, Then Expression B, Otherwise Expression C.

AN EXAMPLE: IF (A1>=5000,10,5)

Note: If cell A1 contained the value 455, the cell this formula resided in would show the value 5.

You say this sounds so easy, but what if I have to be able to evaluate two statements at the same time? No problem!

ANOTHER EXAMPLE:

IF (A1=5000,5, IF (A1=4000,25,0)) Notice that it still reads "If Expression A, then Expression B, Otherwise Expression C." It just happens that Expression C is another IF Statement.

Expression B or Expression C can be a formula or another IF Statement. You can continue to build your formula up to 116 characters. As long as you remember "If Expression A, then Expression B, Otherwise Expression C."

Note: There must always be as many closed parentheses as there are open. This is important!

Let's look at two more analogies that may also be helpful.

"IF-AND" STATEMENTS

1. IF-AND STATEMENTS LOOK LIKE THIS:
IF (and (Exp Aa, Exp Ab), Exp B, Exp C).
2. THEY READ AS FOLLOWS:
If Aa and Ab are *both* true, then use Expression B. If *either* Aa or Ab is false, then use Expression C.
3. IN OTHER WORDS: If Exp Aa *and* Ab are *both* true, then Exp B, otherwise Exp C.

AN EXAMPLE:

IF (and (A1>500, A1<10000),5,0)

Note: Both statements in Exp Aa and Ab must be true in order to evaluate Exp B.

"IF-OR" STATEMENTS

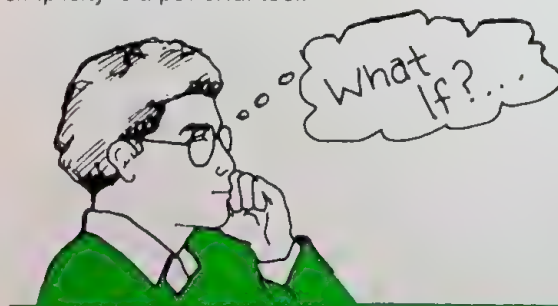
1. IF-OR STATEMENTS LOOK LIKE THIS:
IF (OR (Exp Aa, Exp Ab), Exp B, Exp C)
2. THEY READ AS FOLLOWS:
If *either* Aa or Ab are true, then use Expression B. If Aa and Ab are *both* false, then use Expression C.
3. IN OTHER WORDS: If Exp Aa or Exp Ab are true, then Exp B, otherwise Exp C.

AN EXAMPLE:

IF (OR (A1>5000, B1<10000),5,0)

Note: Only *one* of the statements, Expression Aa or Ab has to be true in order to use Exp B.

Remember: You really don't have to be a programmer to master your SuperCalc worksheet. It is built with the idea that simplicity is a powerful tool.





HOW TO USE THE EXECUTE COMMAND

The eExecute command allows you to set up a command file within the SuperCalc program to process commands you would ordinarily enter manually through the keyboard. This command is ideally suited for those actions that are repetitive. An example would be the procedure you use to build a consolidated report from 10 different /Load partial commands. However, the commands entered from the keyboard manually can be placed into an execute file and then eExecuted as if they were typed from the keyboard.

How to use eExecute:

The commands entered into an eExecutable file are entered exactly as they would be from the keyboard. For example a "partial load" of WORK1 is

```
/Load,WORK1,Part,A1:C49,A1 (CR)
```

But, the actual keys that you have typed to accomplish this are:

```
/LWORK1,PA1:C49,A1 (CR)
```

These are the actual keystrokes that you would have typed to do this procedure. This line could then be entered into an execute file

Here are a few guidelines to use when creating an eExecute file:

1. Set the column width of column A to be wider than the maximum number of characters on any command line. This is because when you Output the command file with the range of "ALL", the command file will be truncated to the width of column A.
2. List each command that you wish to execute on separate lines of a blank SuperCalc worksheet starting at cell A1 and proceeding down column A.
3. Always set the borders to be "OFF" or not displayed before Outputting the execute file to disk. This is done by typing:

```
/GB
```

4. When you Output your command file for execution this file will not be reloadable (for future edits of the command file) If you wish to be able to edit it at a later time, Save the file to disk with the /Save command. This can then be loaded with the /Load command and edited. This file will then have to be Output again to make a new execute file with the edited changes.

5. Output the execute command file onto the disk with the extension of ".XQT". Do this as follows:

```
/Output,Display,ALL,Disk WORK1,XQT (CR)
```

WORK1 is just an example name that we are using here
You would normally use your own filename.

6. Execute files can also be created outside of the SuperCalc program with a word processor such as SuperWriter or a text editor like the one provided with your system (ED or EDLIN for example).

To put the execute file into action, enter:

```
/Xexecute,WORK1 (CR)
```

where WORK1 is the execute file that you Output to the disk. (It must have the extension of ".XQT")

Here is an example of a command file that consolidates twelve monthly statements into a yearly summary:

'ZY	/LJAN PK2 K50 A2.V
FGSTR	/LFEB PK2 K50 B2.V
'FR51 TL	/LMAR PK2 K50 C2.V
'FC1.12	/LAPR PK2 K50 D2.V
A1	/LMAY PK2 K50 E2.V
JANUARY	/LJUN PK2 K50 F2.V
FEBRUARY	/LJUL PK2 K50 G2.V
'MARCH	/LAUG PK2 K50 H2.V
'APRIL	/LSEP PK2 K50 I2.V
MAY	/LOCT PK2 K50 J2.V
JUNE	/LNOV PK2 K50 K2.V
'JULY	/LDEC PK2 K50 L2.V
AUGUST	'M2
SEPTEMBER	SUM(A2 L2)
'OCTOBER	RM2 M3 M50
NOVEMBER	'A51
DECEMBER	'-----
TOTALS	/FCL 12
A1	'L52
	GRAND TOTAL
	SUM(M2 M50)
	YEAR1 A

This assumes a series of identical monthly files that have the totals in column K from cell K2 through cell K50.

Notice that at the end of the command file we have saved the summary with the filename YEAR1.

Try this example to get the feel of how to create a command file, and then use the method for your own particular applications.



HOW TO RECALCULATE A SINGLE CELL

Sometimes you may wish to recalculate the contents of just a single cell. This is something you may want to do when calculating a "running total". To do this, first you must have Manual recalculation mode in effect. Do this by typing:

/GM.

Next, place the cursor on the cell that you wish to recalculate. Now, type the following:

/Edit(CR)(CR)

This will "Edit" the current cell, and then replace the contents into the cell again. Since actually we did no editing, the formula will still be valid. What will happen is that the SuperCalc program will think that the cell has been edited and recalculate the value for *that cell only*.

SOME HANDY FORMULAS

Many of you have requested some examples of formulas. Here are a few examples.

1. To round a cell (or expression) at 2 decimal places:

$\text{INT}(\text{expression} * 100 + .5) / 100$

2. The same formula rounding into an integer:

$\text{INT}(\text{expression} + .5)$

3. Here's one to round to hundreds of dollars:

$\text{INT}(\text{expression} / 100 + .5) * 100$

4. To prevent the "ERROR" statement from occurring on a divide by zero error:

Instead of $A1/A2$

use:

$A1/IF(A2=0,999999999,A2)$

This will use the value 9999999 if A2 is zero. The result will approximate zero in the cell (by dividing by a very large number). Otherwise, if A2 is not zero, A2 will be used in the division.

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A READER PITCHES IN

In a previous newsletter (Third Quarter 1982, Issue #2) we printed an article on how to display Buy/Sell flags in SuperCalc. An alert reader wrote in with an improvement on our approach. Here it is:

Where we used 0 or 1 to place a '*' in the cell, you can also place 0 or 999999999 in the cell. Instead of just seeing the '*' in the cell, you will see '>>>>>>'. This is because the 999999999 exceeds the display width for the cell. When SuperCalc has a number that will not display in the cell at its current column width, then the '>>>>>>' is displayed.

Example:

change:

D2 = IF (A2 > B2, 1, 0)

to:

D2 = IF (A2 > B2, 1, 999999999)

Thanks for the suggestion! Keep the suggestions coming in. We appreciate your ideas.



SUPERCALC'S ARROW KEYS

Users of the SuperCalc program who have also used VisiCalc, often ask why they can't use the arrow keys to enter the current cell and change the direction of the cursor travel. The reason for this is that the arrow keys are used for in-line editing. As you are entering the data into the cell, the arrow keys allow you to edit the data as you enter it.

It is a simple matter to press the return (or enter) key to enter the data into the cell then use an arrow key to set the new cursor direction.



Move the cursor Right



Move the cursor Left



Insert space



Delete character



PASCAL/M™

THE "M" IS FOR MORE!

There sure are a lot of Pascals out there! Pascal/M was designed by Sorcim to be a powerful CP/M-based Pascal compiler (a software tool for programmers). Many Pascals provide extensions to standard Pascal that facilitate the use of Pascal on smaller computers and as a teaching tool. Pascal/M goes a step further to provide tools to make the programmer's life easier.

One of the major differences between Standard Pascal and Pascal/M is that the latter allows String types and provides functions and procedures for string manipulation. (A string is a packed array of characters.)

Pascal/M provides the following procedures and functions to manipulate strings: fill, move, concatenate, copy, scan, return the length of a string, insert into and delete from a string—among others. Pascal/M also provides:

- SCANNE** Scan Not Equal. Use it to ignore leading blanks (scan for first character not equal to blank) or trailing blanks (by using a negative length parameter).
- WDECA** Returns the decimal string equivalent of an unsigned integer.
- WHEXA** Returns the hexadecimal string equivalent of an unsigned integer.

Pascal/M also gives you the ability to Rename or Delete files during execution of your program. What a convenience it is to not have to remember to delete Oldfile, change the name of Newfile to Oldfile AFTER your update program is finished! Check out the RENAME and PURGE functions in your Pascal/M manual.

Speaking of files in general, Pascal/M has some useful functions for use with files other than textfiles or typed files. SIZE tells you how many elements are in a typed file. NEXT tells you where you are in the file, (i.e. the number of the next element that will be read from or written to the file if using

random access on a typed file). With SET_NEXT, you specify the number of the file element that will be accessed by the next GET or PUT instruction.

Pascal/M has the functions FILEREAD and FILEWRITE for use with untyped files. Pascal/M returns the number of BYTES NOT transferred to or from the untyped files.

MORE! Pascal/M provides even more extensions to the Standard language:

- The use of OTHERWISE clause with case statements. You can specify an action for those instances when none of the cases apply.
- Left justification of the output. By using a negative number in the field width definition, (as described in Standard Pascal), you can left justify, as well as right justify, a field as follows

```
WRITE('Hello':-7,'there');
```

will output "Hello" + 2 blanks + "there"

—Screen manipulation functions:

- CONACT(x)** See the Pascal/M manual for the various values of x and related actions. CONACT(2), for example, moves the cursor up one line.
- READYX** Returns the position of the cursor. This is available only if supported by the terminal on which it is used.
- GOTOXY** Positions the cursor at the specified coordinates. (The GOTOXY function is a standard Pascal function and so it is found in many other Pascals.)
- SCREEN** Returns the number of lines and columns of your console or printer.

(These functions are configured for your terminal with the CONFIG program supplied with the Pascal/M. Also supplied with the Pascal/M 8080 version is the file CONSTRL.asm as an alternate way to configure the Pascal.)

If you're still not convinced that the "M" is for More, then may we call attention to the functions Random and Time? Or better yet, consult your Pascal/M manual (or your dealer) for explanations and examples of all these features—and

more!



SuperWriter™

WRITING WITH EASE

(continued from page 2)

Form Letter Generation

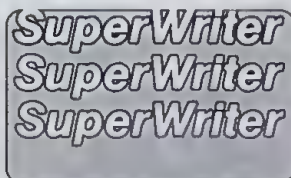
The form letter generation feature allows you to easily create form letters. Then, by using the merging feature with your mailing list, you can print these letters continuously.

The SuperWriter Program makes form letters even more versatile by using conditional commands that allow you to skip unneeded portions of a file, select specific records (fields of information) to print, and merge records with other documents. You can "compose" documents consisting of standard text contained in other files, interspersed with text entered from the keyboard.

Documentation

The SuperWriter User's Guide is a complete instructional program written in clear easy-to-understand English. The detailed index makes explanations easy to find. SuperWriter comes with an AnswerCard for quick reference, a set of gummed key labels, and an introductory starter guide that teaches you how to write, edit and print a letter *in just ten minutes*.

The SuperWriter word processing program continues the Sorcim tradition of providing quality computer software for the professional business office. Like other Sorcim products, once you learn SuperWriter, you can easily use other Sorcim SuperWare family members such as SuperCalc^{2™}. SuperWriter's suggested retail price is \$295. Check with your dealer for a demonstration of SuperWriter and watch for Sorcim's advertisements in your favorite computer magazine.



WEST COAST COMPUTER FAIRE

Thanks to all of you who stopped by our booth at the West Coast Computer Faire in San Francisco in March. It was nice to meet you face to face, and we were thrilled at your reception of SuperCalc² and SuperWriter SuperWare™ programs. Like thousands of other people who are using these software tools, we're sure you'll be pleased that we've maintained the traditional Sorcim ease-of-use and reliability

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SUPERCALC FOR UTILITY RATE COMPUTATIONS

By Thomas G. Gebhard

When "calc" software first became available, most users saw these programs in terms of their first, most obvious uses: generating financial and accounting spreadsheets. But many users are now discovering the additional power and value of "calc" analysis for computations in other fields.

Engineering literature and conferences now include descriptions of different uses for spreadsheet computations. In civil engineering, "calc" can be used in structural analyses, to compute water surface profiles in streams, for water supply studies, for project bid preparations, and for various engineering economic analyses.

As a civil engineer who consults with small utility companies, I've found SuperCalc invaluable in computations for utility rate cases.

Most utility rate computations are based on separating operating expense categories to calculate both fixed monthly rates and variable or "commodity" rates (such as \$/1,000 gallons or c/kWh.) Large utilities' rate computations are handled by large mainframe computers, but small utilities typically still use the pencil-and-paper spreadsheet.

Numerous and extensive "what-if" questions occur in preparing and analyzing utility rate cases. Experienced SuperCalc users will quickly see the potential of our "calc" tool to produce fast, accurate replies to these "what-ifs."

Initially, "what-if" computations are made working with the client or company. Together, we analyze the impact on rates and company income of changes in expense categories, of increases in the number of customers served, and of changes in consumption caused by conservation or heavy use. With this analysis the company obtains a better insight on the impact of their operations on the rate structure.

After the utility rate case is filled, meetings begin with the staff of the utility regulatory commission and with customer representatives. By answering their questions with repeated "what-if" analyses using SuperCalc, they too begin to understand the impact of changes on the financial position of the company.

Analysis of changes in the expense base for small utilities used to be tedious, time consuming, and expensive. But, we no longer have to tell clients, regulatory staff members, or consumers that a "what-if" calculation is too difficult or too expensive to answer. They can be shown the rate impact almost immediately.

Showing these instantaneous computations creates a feeling of "openness," produces a better understanding of

the relationship between expenses and rates, and increases awareness of company problems.

In these question-and-answer sessions, I frequently use the SuperCalc "window" feature to display the utility rates at the top of the screen before making changes to other data. Upon seeing the instantaneous changes, the participants are initially awed by the quick changes, but they quickly join in a productive "brainstorming" session.

In developing rate computations, more than one worksheet is needed. However, a large worksheet can be divided into several small grids which can be printed individually to produce a series of integrated sheets.

In addition to computing rates, SuperCalc is used to compute depreciation schedules for the capital inventory of the company.

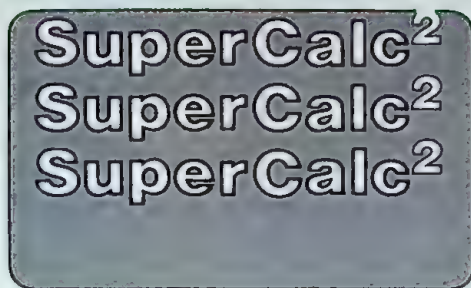
We run SuperCalc under CP/M-86, on an IBM Displaywriter. With an Intel 8086 microprocessor and 256Kb of memory, the Displaywriter is a very powerful computational tool—a point too often overlooked by those who buy it for word-processing use in offices.

As I work with attorneys and accountants, I frequently find the IBM Displaywriter in their offices. When I borrow a secretary's Displaywriter and load SuperCalc into the machine, work frequently stops as the office staff gathers 'round to watch this new and unexpected use of their familiar machine.

The power of SuperCalc gives this small engineering company an important new tool with nearly-instant analytical capabilities. SuperCalc gives us a competitive "edge" by helping us provide our clients with a better understanding of a complex problem.

Thomas G. Gebhard, P.E., Ph.D. is a consulting engineer specializing in utility rate and management matters and in water resource development and management. Formerly, Dr. Gebhard was a Professor at New Mexico State University, Utilities Director for the City of Las Cruces, New Mexico, and the first Director of Public Utilities for the Public Utility Commission of Texas.





SUPERCALC²

You told us what new features you wanted and needed in a great spreadsheet program, and we built them into SuperCalc² in a way that is consistent with SuperCalc. You can use the SuperCalc files you've created in SuperCalc² — even use the same commands. And when you want to use a new feature, you'll find that the new commands have the same "feel" as the ones you're used to in SuperCalc.

Here are some of the new features:

Speed

We made the fastest spreadsheet even faster for 16 bit machines

Documentation

Along with a well-organized, clearly written and illustrated user manual, SuperCalc² users will receive the new "10 Minutes to SuperCalc²" starter guide.

Date Arithmetic and Calendar Functions

These functions can be used for such things as calculating the time between dates for financial calculations, or for applications that are dependent on the date, like development of PERT charts (PERT is Project Evaluation Review Techniques). SuperCalc² has the ability to pick up your computer's system date using the normal computer date function (as with the IBM PC), or by using the Sorcim supplied DATTIM program.

Consolidation

SuperCalc² will consolidate an unlimited number of spreadsheets (or parts of spreadsheets) using simple commands.

Sorting

With the SuperCalc² spreadsheet, you can sort rows or columns by numeric or alpha values. You might use this, for instance, to order the entries on a sales report by volume of sales

New Formats

Are you ready for this? SuperCalc² gives you the ability to use floating dollar signs, embedded commas, conversion of zeros to blanks, percentages, scaling factors, variable decimal places, and hidden regions.

Row & Column Ranges

Row and column ranges help speed up the creation and modification of spreadsheets. All operations can now be specified with row and column ranges, such as insertion or deletion of 5 rows at a time.

Enhanced Printing Capabilities

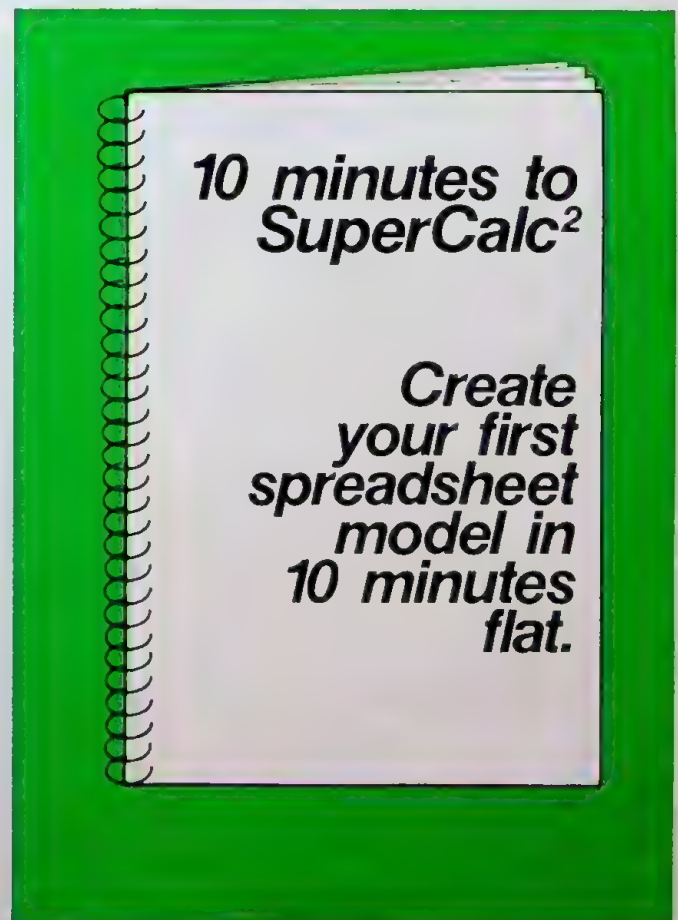
New printing capabilities include optional carriage return/line feed, automatic form feed (to tell the printer to start a worksheet on a new page of paper), and double spacing.

New Arithmetic Functions

SuperCalc²'s new arithmetic functions include rounding (so reports will properly foot and cross foot), and modulo arithmetic.

Other User Productivity Improvements

- Optional non-recalculation on load can make loading files faster
- Use of the ESC key to tell SuperCalc² to save the last file loaded — eliminates retyping of the filename.
- Use of the tab key to move the cursor back and forth between the beginning and end of a command line, — no need to repeatedly press the arrow keys



CURRENT RELEASES

CURRENT VERSIONS

SuperCalc	version 1.12H with SuperData™ Interchange
IBM PC only	version 1.12H-1 with SuperData Interchange
ACT™ assemblers	version 3.5F
Pascal/M™	version 4.05
Pascal/M-86™	version 4.05
TRANS-86™	version 33801
SuperCalc manual	version 1.1; Nov. '82
SuperWriter	version 1.0

NEW FORMATS! SuperCalc™



The SuperCalc program is now being shipped in these new formats:

Ottrona Attache portable computer

Hewlett-Packard HP-86/87 computer

These are available now from the dealer nearest you.

SUPERCALC² UPDATES

In this issue of SuperNews, we announce the April 15 shipping date for SuperCalc², and a new suggested retail price of \$195 for SuperCalc. We are maintaining our standard update charge of \$50 for all existing SuperCalc users. However, for anyone who buys a SuperCalc at its new price (\$195), the update to SuperCalc² will cost \$125. Updates will start on May 1, 1983. (For IBM PC versions only. Other formats will follow shortly.)

To receive an update, just follow these steps

1. Locate the serial number and version number of your Sorcim product, which is printed on the Sorcim label on your master diskette. Also, be prepared to tell us if your diskette has a label other than Sorcim's (for example, Xerox or Zenith)
2. Call Sorcim at (408) 942-0522 and ask for the Update Department. We will ask you some questions such as your name and address, and then we will give you a Return Authorization (RA) number
3. Ship your master diskette to Sorcim in a sturdy cardboard container, *without the manual*. BE SURE TO WRITE THE RETURN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER ON THE CONTAINER. Also, be sure to include:
 - a cover letter in the package with the RA number on the outside of the package (See sketch below)
 - a check or money order (no cash please) to cover the cost of the update (we cannot bill you or accept purchase orders), and
 - YOUR RETURN ADDRESS

When we receive your package, we will ship you a new master diskette, and a new registration card and manual

Note: Some versions of SuperCalc, which have labels other than Sorcim's, may be updated directly by the manufacturer or distributor. Check with us if you have any questions.

If you can't remember if you paid \$295 or \$195 for your version of SuperCalc, call us at Sorcim with your Serial Number, and the people in our Customer Support Department will be able to tell you.



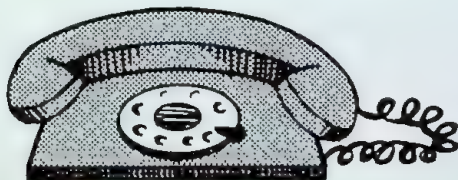


HELP US TO HELP YOU!!!

When calling Sorcim Customer Support, please have the serial number and version of the program you are using ready. This will help by giving us pertinent information on your specific copy. The best place to get this information in from the master diskette that you purchased.

Our purpose here at Sorcim Customer Support is to help you! We believe that we have the best customer support in the micro-computer software industry.

Our hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
The phone number is (408) 942-0522.



Sorcim wishes you a

*Happy
Spring*



Articles, advertisements, applications and views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of Sorcim Corporation.

RETAIL PRICE LIST

The currently suggested retail price list for all Sorcim products is as follows. This includes all formats.

<i>Product</i>	<i>Price</i>
On CP/M 80, 86	
SuperCalc	\$195
SuperWriter	\$295
Super SpellGuard	\$195
On IBM PC	
SuperCalc	\$195
SuperWriter	\$295
Super SpellGuard	\$195
On IBM DisplayWriter	
SuperCalc	\$195
Other products	
Pascal/M	\$395
Pascal/M-86	\$495
Trans-86	\$175
ACT assemblers (8080/8085/Z80; 6800; 6502; 6809; 8086/88)	each \$175

ARE YOU MOVING?

If you have moved recently or are planning to move soon, please fill out the change of address form below and return it to SuperNews. We want to keep you informed of new updates, new products and good news!

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME _____		
STREET _____		APT NO _____
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
PRODUCTS _____		
SERIAL NO (S) _____ MUST BE INCLUDED		

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02-718-04 4-83SVP

All correspondence should be addressed to

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1983 VOL. 2 ISSUE NO. 1

2310 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131 (408) 942-0522

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SuperNews™

by Sorcim

THIRD QUARTER 1982 ISSUE NO. 2

A RECOGNIZED WINNER JOINS
THE SORCIM PRODUCT LINE!

SPELLGUARD

SPELLGUARD

*Voted the BEST SOFTWARE
PRODUCT OF THE YEAR (Infoworld '82)*

SPELLGUARD is the original CP/M spelling-proof-reading program. **SPELLGUARD** quickly and accurately finds spelling and typographical errors in documents which have been prepared using a word processor. **SPELLGUARD** can proofread over twenty pages in one minute on an eight inch floppy disk system. **SPELLGUARD** is for people who use word processors for business. It is well documented, user friendly, and is unmatched in its reliability and speed.

Consider how much time and money go into each letter or report that you prepare. In today's competitive world, your documents must be free from spelling errors. **SPELLGUARD** is the latest way to insure that your documents are letter perfect.

This program is by far the best spell-checking program on the market. We are very pleased to have it be a part of the Sorcim family of software products.

SPELLGUARD is now available as a stand alone package to be used in conjunction with your word processor; and will also be a part of the SuperWriter program when it is released later this year.

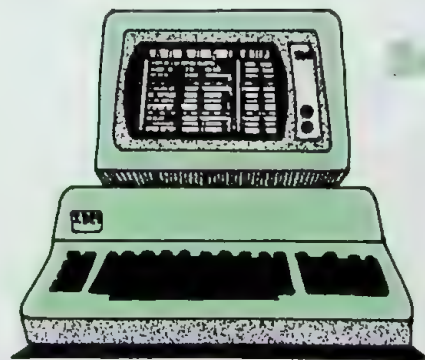
The system requirements are the same as for the SuperCalc™ program and it is available on the same disk formats. The price is \$295.00.

ISA (Innovative Software Applications) of Menlo Park, CA originally released **SPELLGUARD** in 1980. ISA was acquired by Sorcim in July of 1982. ☞

SuperCalc™

for the IBM PC is HERE!

- FULL 544 K MEMORY SUPPORT (DOS MAX.)
*Allows filling all 16000+ cells of worksheet
Makes use of powerful financial modeling templates*
- FULL COLOR SUPPORT
*Negative numbers in RED
Protected fields in YELLOW*
- SUPPORT OF SPECIAL FUNCTION KEYS
- HI-SPEED SCREEN SCROLLING
- FAIL-SAFE PROTECTION WHILE PRINTING



*SuperCalc for CP/M-86 and
the IBM DisplayWriter is now
available!*

*For more information
Contact your dealer*

**Display Rounding
in SuperCalc**

(See Article on page 4)

THE ANSWERKEY

This is the AnswerKey™ column. This column will be used to answer the questions you ask most often and to provide tips on how to best use Sorcim's products.

THE "WHY" OF USING QUOTES FOR TEXT

When the SuperCalc™ program was originally designed, the question of how text was to be distinguished from formulas had to be answered. Originally we specified that any characters would be considered as text, and that to enter a formula, you would have to start the expression with a plus or minus. This proved to be tedious as more formulas than text are generally entered. So, we decided to change it. Now to start text, a double quote (") is entered in front of the text. This way, a formula may be started with the cell reference or function and it is not necessary to enter a plus or minus in front of it. ☞

USE OF REPEATING TEXT

To make a template (or worksheet) look its best, you may want to have lines dividing the template horizontally into logical parts, such as before a total. This can be accomplished by placing several single characters (such as '=' or '-') into each cell all the way across the worksheet. Doing this manually is very tedious. To simplify this procedure, SuperCalc has implemented a "repeating text" function. To begin repeating text in a cell, start the cell with a single quote (') instead of double quotes ("), as in text. This will cause the character(s) to be repeated across to the maximum width of the worksheet.

Here are some examples:

Enter	Resulting line is
' -	- - - - -
' =	= = = = =
' - +	- + - + - + - + -
' + - - +	+ - - + + - - + + -

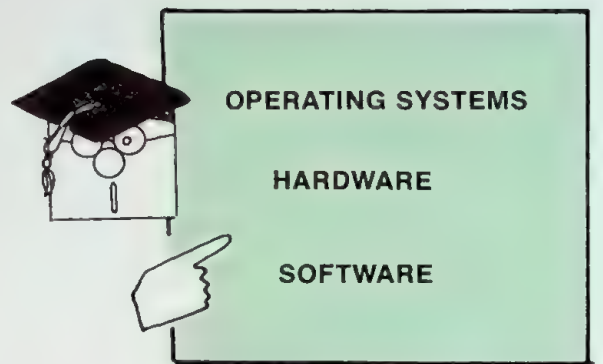
The possibilities are almost limitless, try some out yourself! ☞

HOW TO UPDATE VALUES BY A FIXED PERCENTAGE

(See Article on page 7)

COMPUTER LINGO FOR BEGINNERS

The language of computers can be a bewildering experience for the novice. Listed below are some of the more common words and phrases you may encounter.



OPERATING SYSTEMS

The operating system is the interface between the computer user and the computer system. It translates the commands you type on the keyboard into a code that is recognized by the computer. Two of the most common operating systems are CP/M™ and MP/M™. CP/M stands for Control Program for Microcomputers and consists of a single user working at a terminal. MP/M stands for Multi Programming Monitor. This consists of several (more than one) users operating individual terminals from a single processing unit.

HARDWARE/SOFTWARE

The term "hardware" refers to the physical components of the computer system i.e., the printer, disk drive(s), terminal(s), etc. "Software" refers to the programs which a computer executes to do specific tasks. These often come on a floppy disk.

CLASSES OF SOFTWARE

Software is a term for the set of instructions which, once loaded into the computer's memory, will direct the computer to perform specific actions. There are two types of software:

System software is the software provided with the computer hardware. This software is required for the operation of the system. CP/M is an example.

Application software is a collection of programs that a user can use to perform a specific task, i.e., word processing. Examples of application software are SuperCalc, SuperWriter, etc. ☞

PASCAL CORNER

The following is an article written by one of our Pascal users.

PRESENT VALUE OF AN ANNUITY

by Silas Kwok, Belmont, CA

What is present value? What does it do for me? Do I need it? And how do I use it?

It may be easier to answer all the above questions with a few examples.

Suppose I have a small company called "Rent-A-Computer". I just purchased a CCS-System 400 at \$10,000.00 with a 20MEG drive, running CP/M with PASCAL/M. I am going to rent the system out to a programmer for software development. He is going to need it for two years. When I get it back, the system might be worth \$3,000.00 future value. Now how much should I charge him a month if I want to make 19% on my investment?

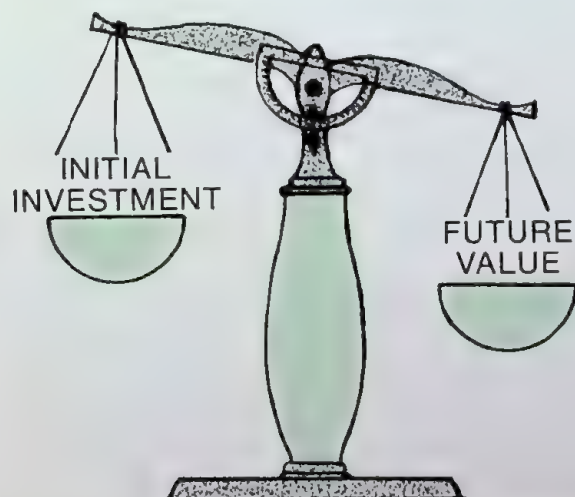
Thumbing thru my old college financial management book I found the following formulas:

$$PV = PMT \left[\frac{1}{1+i} \right]^1 + PMT \left[\frac{1}{1+i} \right]^2 + \dots + PMT \left[\frac{1}{1+i} \right]^N$$

PV = 7,000.00	(10,000 - 3,000)	Present Value
I = 1.58%	(19%/12)	Periodic Interest
N = 24		Periods

That's great! From the calculation, I came up with \$347.24. I will be sure that I am getting the return on my investment.

Suppose I want to lease a Volvo GL. The dealer gave me a quote of \$320.00 a month for 48 months. (Bearing a residual value of \$4,000.00 and said it worth \$16,000.00 today.) How much interest am I paying?



(Con't.)

By manipulating the formula around, I came up with the following:

PV = 12,000	(16,000 - 4,000)	Present Value
PMT = 320.00		Payment
N = 48		Periods

From the calculation, they are charging me 1.11% per month. That is 13.32% per year. (1.11 × 12)

Regardless of your profession, somewhere in time, you may come across a decision involving long term assets. With the proper tools, you should not have to guess any more. Today's businesses are leaning more toward science than the old commonsense methods of yester-year. (See page 8 for source code) ☞

NEW AT COMPUTERS?

Let me tell you . . . one of the biggest problems people face in dealing with computers is fear. I am a prime example.

The closest I had ever come to a computer (before my Sorcim employment) was through my father. A data processor by profession, you would think I would have inherited some knowledge and understanding of the computer NO SUCH LUCK.

So here I was, first day on the job as a graphic artist at Sorcim, and I was surrounded! Yes, I was in a new world, I was an alien! I felt FEAR!! This new world was not only full of computers and other related objects, it was full of languages as well. Now Spanish and German I can handle, but what was this FORTRAN, BASIC and PASCAL?

Here's an example of what I'm talking about:

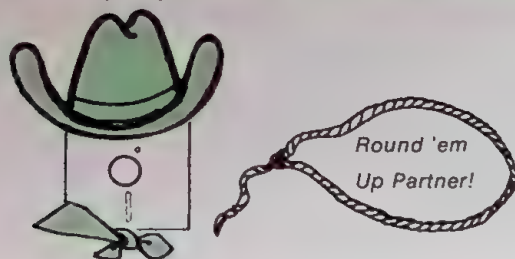
Byte— What you do when you eat. Does a computer eat? No!

DOS— Two in Spanish. Does the computer speak Spanish too? No!

RAM— Mountain animal, goat family, powerful animal. Yes? No!

See what I mean? I was an alien!

To make a long story short, I decided enough was enough! While in Rome, do as the Romans do, and I did. The people here at Sorcim started supplying me with books to read, my fear decreased and my interest picked up. I started listening to technical conversations, and most important of all asking dumb questions. This world that was once so alien, is now becoming home. No, I'm not a technical wizard, nor am I an expert on computers. What I am is a person finally getting comfortable with the Micro world. I've even been bugging the programmers here to let me play with their computers, but they're so busy programming—they say I have to get my own . . . and I will! ☞



DISPLAY ROUNDING IN SUPERCALC

When using the dollar format (\$) (or Integer) option in SuperCalc, it sometimes appears that the program is not adding correctly. For example, enter the following on a blank worksheet. (Use the Zap command first before proceeding.)

Note: In the following examples, the underlined portion is to be typed by the user.

Example: enter 1.567 in A1
2.365 in A2
4.372 in A3
SUM(A1:A3) in A4

Note that the sum evaluates to 8.3041

Now, enter /Format,Column,A,\$(return)

The display will have the following:

	A	B	C
1	1.57		
2	2.37		
3	4.37		
4	8.30		

8.30 is NOT the sum of 1.57, 2.37 and 4.37!

What has happened is that the SuperCalc program has added the column using all of the decimal precision (places) which were entered. The dollar format (\$) rounds numbers off at the 2 decimal places for display purposes only. The values in the cells are not affected. This means even though A1 is displayed as 1.57, it is still added to the sum as 1.567. The sum shown (8.30) is actually the sum 8.3041 rounded off to two decimal places.

The problem can be corrected by forcing the value in SuperCalc's memory to be rounded the same way as it is on the display. To do this, use the following expression:

$\text{INT}((\text{expression}) * 100 + 0.5) / 100$

Note: Where we use "(expression)" this may be any formula or expression that you normally would use. (It should be placed in parentheses to prevent confusion.) Also, be careful not to exceed the number of characters allowed in a formula (116) when adding this additional formula.

Here is an example of how to do this:

Enter the following:

in B1 enter $\text{INT}(A1 * 100 + 0.5) / 100$
 then /Replicate,B1,B2:B3
 in B4 enter SUM(B1:B3).

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE WAS WONDERFUL!

Thank you all who returned your questionnaires from the first issue of SuperNews! Your input is very useful in product development and improvement and will enable us to better serve your needs. (See pg. 9 for list of T-shirt winners.) These people are from all over the United States. Congratulations to all of you!

If you have not returned your questionnaires, it's not too late! Do it now—You could win a copy of the SuperWriter program at our Grand Prize Drawing when it's released later this year.

(Note: Due to the overwhelming response, we awarded 80 shirts instead of the 50 originally planned.)



(Con't. from previous column)

Now, format column B to dollar format in the same manner as for column A (/Format,Column,B,\$(return)). This time the value on the display and the values in SuperCalc's memory are the same. Also, the sum is the sum of the displayed values.

The only drawback in using this expression is that the new expression takes more of the available memory than the original expression did. (So, you would want to use it only when it is really necessary.)

For most accounting and financial applications which use the dollar format, the numbers will represent dollar amounts or percentages, and probably won't be entered with more than two decimal digits, but formulas referencing these might generate the extra precision.

An easy way to remember when to expect this problem is: "Adding and subtracting two decimal digit numbers won't increase the number of digits of the result, but multiplying or dividing them will."

This will most likely be needed when:

1. Multiplying by a fraction or a cell that will contain a fraction, i.e. (A1 * 0.0123).
2. Dividing (A1/A2).
3. Multiplying two numbers with more than one decimal place each. Example: $2.5 * 3.7 = 9.25$ which is okay. But $1.95 * 3.25 = 6.3375$ is not okay.
4. Or when someone types a number into a cell with more than two decimal digits (1.2345). This will also produce problems when adding or subtracting.

When making the template (blank worksheet), the best way to proceed is to set the format to G for General so that you can see all the places where the extended precision is generated. Then place the rounding formula into those cells with the (expression) which is already there. When you are satisfied that you have found all of the cells where the extended precision is generated, the format may then be set to dollar format (\$), if desired. ☺

HOW TO SHOW BUY/SELL FLAGS IN SUPERCALC

It is often useful to have a "flag" displayed in SuperCalc to indicate a condition. This is commonly done by displaying a zero or a one in the cell. SuperCalc does not handle text in IF statements. The following example shows another approach.

In a column in which you wish to have a flag displayed (like a buy/sell flag for stock forecasting) place an IF statement in the cell and set the column width to approximately 5 (depending on your preference), with a format of "*" for graphic format.

EXAMPLE:

Definition Cell A2 is the value for value testing. Cell B2 is the value to buy at, cell C2 is value to sell at. If the transaction value is greater than the sell value or the transaction value less than the buy value, NO flag is displayed.

- Procedure**
1. Set columns D and E to a width of 5 and "*" format.
 2. Enter your titles in row 1 to identify the columns.
 3. Enter the following formulas into D2 and E2 (these may later be replicated to the rest of column D and E).
D2 = IF(A2>B2, 1, 0)
E2 = IF(A2<C2, 1, 0)

DISPLAY

	!	A	!!	B	!!	C	!!	D	!!	E	!
1	!	Value		Buy		sell		Buy		Sell	
2	!	100		50		150					
3	!	200		50		150				*	
4	!	25		50		150		*			

SDI (SUPER DATA INTERCHANGE) SHIPPING SCHEDULE

At this time, we are delaying shipment of the SDI program for approximately six (6) weeks in order to implement changes which will make the program easier for you to understand and use. Though we realize that delays of this sort are often inconvenient, we are confident that these changes will make your interactions with SDI much more effective and enjoyable.

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REAL ESTATE OVERLAYS FOR SUPERCALC™

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Advertisement



THE HANOVER FAIR

I was happy to go as one of Sorcim's representatives to Hanover because Hanover is not only my hometown, but I also worked for many years at the fair in the past.

Sorcim is a company reaching out to the world and this April we were at the largest fair in the world, the Industrial Fair in Hanover, Germany.

People from about 120 countries and exhibitors from over 50 industrial countries came to the 250 acre fair grounds. U.S.A. was represented directly by over 50 companies and through almost 100 representatives and subsidiaries.

Trade is more than an exchange of goods and money, it's an ambassador, and SuperCalc is our ambassador to the microcomputer world.

For Sorcim, the World Center for Office Data and Technology, with over 1100 exhibitors, was the most interesting part. SuperCalc in color on the IBM PC was very well received. Sorcim's excellent demonstration attracted crowds of professional people. Many large and small companies took a serious interest in SuperCalc, SuperWriter and Sorcim as a company. SuperCalc offers possibilities most other programs do not; and this was recognized by people of the business world.

Trade is more than an exchange of goods and money, it's an ambassador, and SuperCalc is our ambassador to the microcomputer world. ☘

USING AN ASCII CONVERSION CHART

Some of you have questions about the character sequences sent to the printer when using the Setup option of the Output command. The Setup option requires that the actual control characters be typed, instead of the corresponding hex or decimal values. The following chart converts the decimal values (listed in your printer manual) to the proper control characters to type.

Note: If your printer manual lists these values in Hexadecimal (HEX), this number must be converted to decimal, and looked up in the following chart:

ASCII CONVERSION CHART

Decimal Value	ASCII Character	Common Name for Character
00	CTRL-@	
01	CTRL-A	
02	CTRL-B	
03	CTRL-C	
04	CTRL-D	
05	CTRL-E	
06	CTRL-F	
07	CTRL-G	
08	CTRL-H	
09	CTRL-I	TAB
10	CTRL-J	LINE FEED
11	CTRL-K	
12	CTRL-L	FORM FEED
13	CTRL-M	CARRIAGE RETURN
14	CTRL-N	
15	CTRL-O	
16	CTRL-P	
17	CTRL-Q	
18	CTRL-R	
19	CTRL-S	
20	CTRL-T	
21	CTRL-U	
22	CTRL-V	
23	CTRL-W	
24	CTRL-X	
25	CTRL-Y	
26	CTRL-Z	
27	CTRL-[	ESCape
28	CTRL-\	
29	CTRL-]	
30	CTRL-^	
31	CTRL-~	

To type a control character (i.e. CTRL-A), hold down the control key (labeled CTL, CTNL or CTRL) on your keyboard, and then type the specified character. ☞

CURRENT RELEASES

SuperCalc	version 1.12
ACT™ assemblers	version 3.5F
Pascal/M™	version 4.05
Pascal/M-86™	version 4.05

SUPERCALC VERSION HISTORY

This information is for the many of you who have asked about the differences in the various versions of SuperCalc.

- 1.00 Original product never released.
- 1.02 First copy released.
- 1.04 Updated from 1.02 to improve memory management.
- 1.05 Removed file protection from the 1.04 version (makes product PIP-able).
- 1.06 Fixed problem with clear to end of line, affects only ADM-3A terminals and those without a clear to end of line function.
- 1.07 For Xerox 820 only. This is a memory mapped version for the Xerox video map.
- 1.12 Execute function added. All formats updated to this version. ☞

PASCAL/M VERSION HISTORY

In our first newsletter we mentioned that a new version of Pascal/M is available. Many of you may want to stay current by obtaining the latest version. You *may not need* the latest version. The following information will help you to determine whether or not you actually need an updated version.

Between version 3.xx and 4.00 there are major changes in the program. These include:

1. 14 digit precision for real numbers.
2. A symbolic debugger added to aid in program development.

Because of these changes, an updated manual is being provided with the update. The update costs \$50. CP/M 1.4, CDOS and the 9511 math chip are no longer supported. If you would like to get an update, please call Customer Support.

Between version 4.00 and the latest version 4.05, there are only slight changes. As this product has been in the field for over 2 years, most of the major bugs have been fixed. There are new versions being released because people occasionally find bugs in the "fringe" behavior of Pascal. If you have run into one of these bugs, you'll know. If you do not encounter a bug in your application, you are not likely to need an update. If you think you need an update, please document your problem and send us a letter to the attention of Customer Support. ☞

THE ANSWERKEY
(Con't. from page 2)

**HOW TO UPDATE VALUES
BY A FIXED PERCENTAGE**

This section discusses how to update a set of values (prices for example) by a fixed percentage without re-typing all of the values. We are assuming that the prices themselves are data and not formulas; also, that the values have been entered in a continuous column or row. This method does not use extra cells to store data in (permanently). This saves memory.

NOTE: If there are other values in the column that you need, you must copy these separately to the newly created column.

EXAMPLE:

Assume that column A has the prices in cells A1 thru A20. We wish to update these prices by 15%. To do this as simply as possible, proceed as follows:

1. Insert a column between columns A and B (or rows 1 and 2). This will be used as a temporary work area.
2. In cell B1 type the following: A1*1.15 (use 1.15 to update the values by 15%).
3. Now, replicate this formula from B2 to B20.
4. Column B now has the new values, but these are formulas. If we delete the old values, the formulas will result in errors. To prevent this, we will convert the formulas to data values only. Use the Copy function with the following parameters:

Source range: B1:B20
Destination cell: A1

At this point, type a comma instead of a return to terminate the destination cell. Then, type a "V" for values. This will copy just the values into the cells in place of the formulas.

5. Now, we can delete column B which was a temporary column. This will leave the new prices in the A column.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Our purpose here at Sorcim Customer Support is to help you! We believe that we have the best customer support in the micro-computer software industry.

Our hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
The phone number is (408) 727-7634.

THE EXECUTE COMMAND

The following is a good example of how to use the eXecute function in the 1.10(or later) version of SuperCalc.

"YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT, . . ."

by Jacques Boivin, Sunnyvale, CA

Many jobs include once-in-a-while operations, i.e. transferring the current month's figures in the Year-To-Date columns and starting the new month with zeroes, or adding a new employee to a job analysis table. Have you ever wished someone would carry out for you these tedious housekeeping functions, time after time, faithfully and accurately?

Enter your obedient servant, at your beck and call, /Xecuting your imminent instructions. Who? The Command File, and you only need to tell it once.

How do you conjure up this faultless servant? By writing down the sequence of command keystrokes you need for the job, as labels, one per row, in the first column of a blank worksheet, then erasing the borders and saving it to a diskette using /O under a suitable name ("END-MONTH", "NEWEMPL", . . .) and later executing it by /X after you have loaded the worksheet you want it to work on.

Yes, it is that simple! An example will convince you. Suppose you have an "actual vs. budget" worksheet as follows:

	I	A	II	B	II	C	II	D	II	E	II	F	II	G	I
1	I					Current						Year-to-Date			
2	I	Items		Budget		Actual		Variance		Budget		Actual		Variance	
3	I							C3-B3						F3-E3	
4	I							C4-B4						F4-E4	
5	I							C5-B5						F5-E5	
6	I							C6-B6						F6-E6	
7	I							C7-B7						F7-E7	
8	I							C8-B8						F8-E8	
9	I														
10	I	Total		SUM (B2:B9)		***		***		***		***		SUM (G2:G9)	

At the end of each month, you want to add the values in column B to the corresponding ones in column E; column C to column F; then blank out the values in column C to start a new month.

However, you cannot write formulas like B3 + E3 in E3, because the addition would be performed each time you change a value on your worksheet, and each time you load it.

So, having saved your worksheet after the last entry in your first month, you /Zap and enter the following as Text:

A	Comments
1. "=H3	Use column H as scratchpad
2. "B3 + E3	Build your "Year-To-Date" budget
3. "/RH3,H4:H8	Repeat down column H
4. "/RH3:H8,E3,V	Transfer the resulting values to column E
5. "= H3	Use column H again for "actual"

(Con't. on next page)

THE EXECUTE COMMAND

(Con't. from page 7)

6. "C3 + F3 Build Year-To-Date actual
7. "/RH3,H4:H8 Repeat down column H
8. "/RH3:H8,F3,V Transfer values back to column F
9. "/BH3:H8 Wipe out scratchpad
10. "/BC3:C8 Zero "actual" column to start new month
11. "C3 Ready for first entry of "actual"

Now, erase the borders by /GB and first save this command file as a SuperCalc worksheet (by/S, Filename,A) so you can recall and edit it later if necessary. Then, store it as a textfile by /O(utput), D(isplay), All, D(isk), Filename.XQT.

Note: You must O(utput) the D(isplay), not the C(ontents). You must also append ".XQT" to your file name.

And each time you want to do your end-of-month housekeeping, just /L(oad) your worksheet, then type /X(ecute), Filename and presto! you are done...

Source Code Con't.

```
PROCEDURE LOOP;
BEGIN
  X6:=1+X1;
  X7:=EXP(N*LN(X6));
  X5:=X1*(PV*X1/PMT-X6)*X7+X6;
  X4:=X1*X5-X7+1;
  X1:=X1+X5/X4
END;
```

```
PROCEDURE FINDI;
LABEL 1;
BEGIN
  CONACT(0);
  X6:=PMT/(PV-PMT);
  X5:=SQRT(PV)/((PV-PMT)*PMT*SQRT(N));
  X1:=X6-X5;
  IF X1 < 0.0 THEN BEGIN LOOP END ELSE GOTO 1;
  IF X1 >= 0.000001 THEN BEGIN LOOP END ELSE GOTO 1;
  I:=X1*100;
  Writeln('VALUE INPUTED ARE AS FOLLOWS :');
  Writeln;
  Writeln('NUMBER OF COMPOUNDING PERIODS . . . . .',N:10:2);
  Writeln('PERIODIC PAYMENT . . . . . $',PMT:10:2);
  Writeln('PRESENT VALUE . . . . . $',PV:10:2);
  Writeln;
  Writeln('PERIODIC INTEREST RATE IS ',I:7:2,'%');
  Writeln
END;
```

PRESENT VALUE OF AN ANNUITY

(Con't. from page 3)



(Note: This is the source code for a program for Pascal/M users.)

```
TYPE PRESENT.PAS
PROGRAM PRESENT(INPUT,OUTPUT);
(* PRESENT VALUE VER 1.0 6-09-81 BY SILAS KWOK *)
VAR
  I,PV,FV,INT,PMT,N,X1,X2,X3,X4,X5,X6,X7: REAL;
  CH: CHAR;
PROCEDURE START;
BEGIN
  CONACT(0);
  Writeln('PRESENT VALUE, ANNUITY DUE BY SILAS KWOK');
  Writeln;
  WRITE ('ENTER VALUE FOR ANY THREE OF THE FOUR VARIABLES');
  Writeln(' (N,I(%),PMT,PV) ');
  Writeln('AND THIS PROGRAM WILL RETURN A VALUE FOR THE REMAINING VARIABLE. ');
  Writeln;
  WRITE ('ENTER 0 FOR THE VARIABLE TO BE FOUND. ');
  Writeln;
  WRITE ('ENTER NUMBER OF COMPOUNDING PERIODS N . . . . . ');
  READ (N);
  WRITE ('ENTER PERIODIC INTEREST RATE I(%) . . . . . ');
  READ (I);
  WRITE ('ENTER PERIODIC PAYMENT PMT . . . . . ');
  READ (PMT);
  WRITE ('ENTER PRESENT VALUE PV . . . . . ');
  READ (PV);
  Writeln;
  Writeln('COMPUTING . . . . . ');
END;
PROCEDURE FINDN;
BEGIN
  CONACT(0);
  INT:=I/100;
  X1:=1/(1+INT);
  X2:=LN((X1*PV*INT/PMT)*(-1.0)+1);
  N:=ROUND(X2/LN(X1));
  Writeln('VALUE INPUTED ARE AS FOLLOWS :');
  Writeln;
  Writeln('INTEREST . . . . .',I:10:2,'%');
  Writeln('PERIODIC PAYMENT . . . . . $',PMT:10:2);
  Writeln('PRESENT VALUE . . . . . $',PV:10:2);
  Writeln;
  Writeln('NUMBER OF COMPOUNDING PERIODS IS ',N:4:1);
  Writeln;
END;
```

```
PROCEDURE FINDPMT;
BEGIN
  CONACT(0);
  INT:=I/100;
  X2:=1+INT;
  X3:=1/EXP(N*LN(X2));
  X4:=(X3*(-1.0)+1)/INT;
  PMT:=(PV/X2)/X4;
  Writeln('VALUE INPUTED ARE AS FOLLOWS :');
  Writeln;
  Writeln('NUMBER OF COMPOUNDING PERIODS . . . . .',N:10:2);
  Writeln('PERIODIC INTEREST RATE . . . . .',I:10:2,'%');
  Writeln('PRESENT VALUE . . . . . $',PV:10:2);
  Writeln;
  Writeln('PERIODIC PAYMENT IS $',PMT:10:2);
  Writeln
END;
```

```
PROCEDURE FINDPV;
BEGIN
  CONACT(0);
  INT:=I/100;
  X2:=PMT*(1+INT);
  X3:=1/EXP(N*LN(1+INT));
  PV:=X2*(X3*(-1.0)+1)/INT;
  Writeln('VALUE INPUTED ARE AS FOLLOWS :');
  Writeln;
  Writeln('NUMBER OF COMPOUNDING PERIODS . . . . .',N:10:2);
  Writeln('PERIODIC INTEREST RATE . . . . .',I:10:2,'%');
  Writeln('PERIODIC PAYMENT . . . . . $',PMT:10:2);
  Writeln;
  Writeln('PRESENT VALUE IS $',PV:10:2);
  Writeln
END;
```

```
BEGIN (* MAIN PROGRAM *)
  CONACT(0);
  CH:='Y';
  WHILE CH='Y' DO
    BEGIN
      START;
      IF N=0 THEN BEGIN FINDN END;
      IF I=0 THEN BEGIN FINDI END;
      IF PMT=0 THEN BEGIN FINDPMT END;
      IF PV=0 THEN BEGIN FINDPV END;
      WRITE ('DO YOU WISH TO COMPUTE AGAIN (Y/N) ? ');
      READ (CH)
    END;
  CONACT(0)
END. (* END MAIN PROGRAM *)
```



Questionnaire Response

(Con't. from p. 4)

Our T-shirt winners are listed below:

Gerald Norman	Sylvia Chou
Len Gaydos	Steve Clamage
Donald E. Kay	John Kinneberg
Bob Quiring	Jim Dunn
Glenn M. Grigg	Ken Kelleher
Walt Spevak	Mark Seaman
Terry Hazen	Ronald M. LaPedis
David Brandt	Warren Yogi
T.J. McCrone	Guy Scharf
Jerry Murphy	William F. Wilkinson
Bob Morgan	M. Paul Farr
Jeffrey Smurthwaite	Kim Tompkins
Truman Gerken	Wayne Tustin
Neil C. Pering	W.D. Rausch
Toscana Baking Co.	Bruce J. Edmundson
L. Wortman	Gregg Morris
Jim Broadwell	Darrel F. Icenogle
Larry Mehl	Herbert M. Kravitz MD
Barry Atsatt	Walt Seidelman
Wayne E. Stiefvater	Keith Kowalczyk
Steve Grimes	Jack W. Gordon Jr.
Paul Christiansen	J. Richard Ewina
Ralph M. Miles Jr.	Greg S. Gum
Michael Lippman	William J. Salmon
Ron Forney	W. Banks Anderson Jr. MD
Theodore P. Findley MD	Ted Tighe
George J. Coe	Dennis D. Steinauer
C.L. Hodges	Brian Costa
Don Erbel	Michael Kalisiak
Ed Mentzer	R.T. Nation
Roger Wallace	John Stager
Hartley G. Lesser	Bob Towal
Richard A. Lindsay	Alan H. Lake
Nancy Nowak	G.S. Baird
Larry McQuown	Paul Dresler
Bert Smart	G. Lawson Drinkard III.
Robert M. Stone	

(There are 7 other T-shirt winners who did not wish to have their names listed in "SuperNews".)

SUPERCALC ON THE TRS-80 MODEL II

The SuperCalc program runs on the Radio Shack TRS-80 Model II computer! It requires the CP/M operating system to do so.

- Pickles and Trout Version**—The Pickles and Trout version is the most widely supported of the three versions. This version will be on the Install program at the next release. It is the only version that uses the inverse video for the cursor. The current Install program will allow customizing for this version. Notes on how to do this are available from Sorcim Customer Support.
- Lifeboat Associates Version**—This version emulates a Lear Siegler ADM-3A terminal, which is on our standard menu and may be selected as such.

RETAIL PRICE LIST

The currently suggested retail price list for all Sorcim products is as follows. This includes all formats.

Product	Price
On CP/M 80, 86	
SuperCalc	\$295
SuperWriter**	\$395
On IBM PC	
SuperCalc	\$295
SuperWriter**	\$395
On IBM DisplayWriter	
SuperCalc	\$295
Other products	
Pascal/M	\$395
Pascal/M-86	\$495
Trans-86	\$175
ACT assemblers	
(8080/8085/Z80; 6800;	
6502; 6809; 8086/88) each	\$175

**Available this fall.

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If you have moved recently or are planning to move soon, please fill out the change of address form below and return it to SuperNews. We want to keep you informed of new updates, new products and good news!

PLEASE PRINT:

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CITY	STATE	ZIP
PRODUCTS		
SERIAL NO (S) MUST BE INCLUDED		

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SuperNewsTM
by Sorcim

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FOURTH QUARTER 1982

ISSUE NO. 3



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SuperData-File Manager**

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Super-Reliable. Service-Free.
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Sorcim Soars with New Products!

Sorcim is soaring ahead with new SuperWare™ products. You're probably already flying through the SuperCalc™ and Super SpellGuard™ programs. Now we're pleased to announce the arrival of the SuperData™ Interchange and SuperWriter™ programs. Enhancements for the SuperCalc™ program will be landing soon, and SuperData™-File Manager and SuperChart™ software packages are on the launching pad. Watch for Sorcim's super powered ad in your favorite computer magazine.

What to do When "MEMORY FULL"

(See page 5)

Sorcim Show Stopper at COMDEX

(See page 8)





SUPERDATA™ INTERCHANGE HAS ARRIVED!

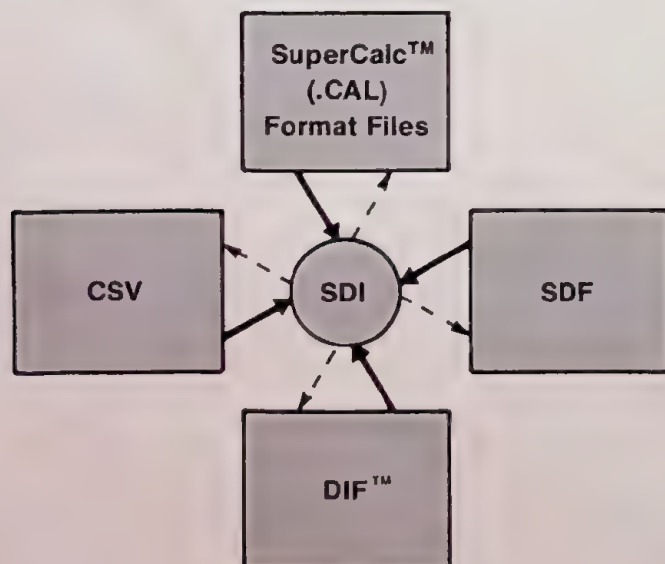
Today there are a number of different business-oriented programs designed to help you solve practical business problems. The options for manipulation of data vary with each program.

Now there's the SuperData Interchange program! This program will let you get the most out of all of your programs by allowing you to use the data generated in one program (such as your database manager) in conjunction with another (such as SuperCalc).

SuperData Interchange Program:

- Converts Comma Separated Values files in ASCII format (such as those generated by dBASE II™ and DataStar™) into files that the SuperCalc program can read.
- Converts files written in SuperData™ Format to a file that the SuperCalc program can read. This allows programs other than SuperCalc to generate data, formulas and the formatting of a SuperCalc worksheet.
- Converts SuperCalc files to Comma Separated Values file in ASCII format.
- Converts SuperCalc files to SuperData Format files.

SDI provides a way to interchange data to and from many different programs. Here are some examples:



SuperWriter™

IS HERE!!!

The SuperWriter™ program is a fully integrated text processing system which provides you with the ability to create, edit, and print reports, letters, and other documents—without lengthy, repetitive typing. The SuperWriter program also performs powerful print merge (form letter generation) as well as proofreads documents for spelling errors.

And it runs on many computer systems, including:

The IBM Personal Computer
CP/M-86 and CP/M-80 systems

This truly comprehensive program of text handling functions for the microcomputer user is coming at an easy-to-handle price, only \$395.

Features include:

- Full function word processing capabilities.
- Built-in spelling checker.
- Form letter and mailing list generation capabilities.
- Full print formatting including true proportional spacing!

This program is now available!

Contact your Sorcim Super Dealer
for more information.

(continued from previous column)

This program allows you to interchange data between many business programs that you may already be using daily. You can, for example, take data from a mainframe computer and work on that data with the powerful number crunching capabilities of the SuperCalc program.

The SDI program is available as an update to the SuperCalc program if you currently own a copy. If not, it will be distributed with the SuperCalc program at no additional charge. For information on how to get an update see "How to Receive an Update" detailed on page 10.

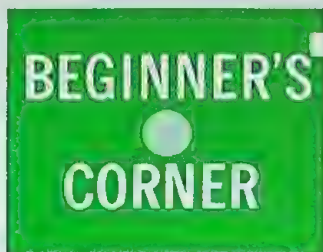
Legend for Diagram

DIF (Data Interchange Format): Visi-series programs and many other programs supporting the DIF file type. (DIF is a subset of the SDF file format.)

SDI (SuperData Interchange Program)

SDF (SuperData Format): Basic programs, Pascal programs, and custom programs, and also data from other programming languages.

CSV (Comma Separated Values): Basic programs, Pascal programs, dBASE II™, DataStar™, and other programming languages.



DISKETTE CARE TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

Care in the Office Environment

When using diskettes in an office environment, there are many hazards of which you should be aware. Among these are computer terminals, spilled liquids and eraser filings. Here are a few tips which may help keep you from inadvertently losing valuable data on your diskette.

TERMINALS, VIDEO MONITORS, ETC.

The diskette should never be left on top of a terminal, video monitor or television set. The heat this electronic equipment emits may warp the diskette. Also, picture tubes produce a magnetic field which may be harmful to diskettes. Keep diskettes away from all magnets and magnetic fields. Magnetic fields can be found in places that you'd never expect, even including near paper-clips!

LIQUIDS

Another potential hazard to your work area is liquid. Liquids coming in contact with your diskette may destroy it entirely! If you spill water, coffee, or other liquids on a diskette, immediately proceed as follows:

1. *Shake out excess moisture.* As soon as possible, shake out all of the excess moisture and let the diskette dry. Do NOT place the wet diskette in your computer, you may ruin the head on your disk drive. Even so, after placing a dirty or previously wet diskette in your drive, you should clean the heads on your disk drive with a head cleaning diskette.
2. *Copy the diskette.* Copy the diskette using the file copy program provided with your system (or a copydisk program if you have one). This may recover some or all of the files on the disk. Liquids such as coffee and soda are especially harmful because they contain acids. The best bet is to keep ALL liquids and foods away from your computer and valuable data.

ERASER FILINGS

Be careful to keep diskettes away from erasers. The eraser filings are small particles which can damage the diskette. Any small particles which get lodged in the jacket (envelope) of the diskette may damage the magnetic coating. If you do get any filings on a diskette, gently shake the diskette to remove the filings. If there are a lot of them, immediately make a backup of the disk to recover any



NEW ENHANCEMENTS FOR SUPERCALC!

The following features are being added to the SuperCalc program. This new version will be available early next year.

SuperCalc Enhancements Include:

ROUND Function

- Assures that columns and rows totals match the displayed values.

Consolidation Feature

- Allows you to automatically add the values of any parts of any worksheet on your disk to the values in your active worksheet.
- Allows arithmetic operations on areas of the worksheet using a single command and no additional memory.

Sort Facility

- Allows the rearranging of rows or columns in memory according to the numeric or alphabetic ordering of selected columns or rows.

Additional Formatting Options

- Allows increased flexibility in the display and printing of data.

Additional Print Options

- Allows better presentation of reports generated by the SuperCalc program.

Even Greater Ease of Use

- "Delete", "Insert", "Format", etc. accept row and column *ranges*.
- Easier interaction with the file directory when saving, loading, etc. files.
- A single keystroke recalls the name of the current disk file being worked with (for use with the "save" and "load" commands).

(continued from previous column)

damaged files. CAUTION: Do NOT blow on the disk to remove the filings. The moisture in your breath may stay on the diskette and damage the data further.

As normal operating procedure, always have at least one backup copy of all of your diskettes.





SUPERDATA™-FILE MANAGER IS IN THE WORKS!

Another of our expanding Family of Sorcim SuperWare™ products is coming to a Sorcim Super Dealer near you!

The SuperData™-File Manager program will perform many time-consuming office functions such as filing, searching, mailing list generation, invoice printing and arithmetic calculations. The SuperData-File Manager program provides the power and flexibility of other products that are much more complex to use. No programming skills are required to utilize the full power of the program. Help text is so complete that you may find a manual unnecessary.

The commands used in SuperData-File Manager are similar to those of SuperCalc, so if you are familiar with SuperCalc, this program will be a snap to use!

Features include:

- A SuperCalc-like User Interface for greatest ease of use.
- Arithmetic operations on fields.
- Multiple screen and output formats for each file.
- Libraries for screen output and records selection.
- Interfaces with the entire line of Sorcim SuperWare.

The SuperData-File Manager program can be used for many other purposes, from storing recipes, invoices, to employee information, library card catalog, or about anything else that used to go in a filing cabinet.

The SuperData-File Manager program will be supported on the same systems as our entire line of Sorcim SuperWare.



SUPERCALC IS SMART!



The SuperCalc program is "smart"; it knows how much memory is available in your system and automatically uses as much memory as is available.

This means that the SuperCalc program asks the operating system (which must be correctly configured for your system) how much memory is available and uses all of it. The amount of memory available is up to 64k in a CP/M-80 system and up to 512k in a CP/M-86 or PC DOS system.

You may think that your SuperCalc program is not using all of the memory that your computer system has available. If not, here are a few things to check.

1. If using CP/M, check to see that your system is configured for the maximum amount of memory available. Sometimes when you are just setting up the system, you find that CP/M is configured for the minimum amount of memory. See the MOVCPM command in your system manual.
2. Your CP/M configuration may be as large as possible although it does not seem this way to you. Example: Your Apple II has 64K of RAM but the largest CP/M system that you can configure is 56K. This is because the Apple video screen and I/O space take up the additional 8K which is unusable by CP/M.
3. If using PC DOS, perhaps your switches are not set correctly for the amount of memory that you have in the system. See your IBM reference manual.

If the above 3 items check out correctly for your system, but you still suspect problems contact your dealer. He is most familiar with the specific hardware that you are using and will be able to assist you.



WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU REACH "MEMORY FULL"

In the SuperCalc program, a few people are afraid of the "MEMORY FULL" message. This article gives information about what "MEMORY FULL" actually means, and how to proceed when that message appears on your screen.

For those of you who do not know what the message means or have not yet reached it, let us explain.

The number of cells that you can actually expect to fill in your SuperCalc program depends on how much memory you start with. This is indicated when SuperCalc signs on by the "Memory:" status on the status line. With CP/M 2.2 machines, this value varies from 22 to 31. This means that you have from 22 to 31 thousand characters (or bytes) that can contain the worksheet data. What does this mean to you? With about 22k (k means thousand) of memory you can fill an average of 900 to 1200 cells. With 31k of memory you can fill 1000 to 1500 cells.

As you enter information into your computer system, you use up the internal memory that is available. This means that the status line "Memory:" will show a smaller and smaller amount. Be sure to watch the "Memory:" status line to know when you are running out of memory.

Now, what to do if you actually do get down to 0k (zero k) memory? → "MEMORY FULL".

How to Proceed:

To finish your application, here are the steps to take:

(More detail about each of these points will follow.)

1. Separate the total problem into two or more separate worksheets.
2. Store the first worksheet onto diskette after the data has been entered.
3. Carry the information from the first half to the second half of the application. This does not mean that the worksheet in memory can *directly* access the files on the disk, but it will access them indirectly.

Step 1. Find a logical breaking point.

Find a logical place in your application where the formulas depend as little as possible on the previous rows or columns. For example consider doing a yearly projection. If you have too many departments (rows) or are breaking the projection down into too many time units (columns), such as in a week by week projection, you may run out of mem-

(continued from previous column)

ory. The logical breaking point in this example would be one of two places.

- a) Break the worksheet at the six-month point, or
- b) Separate it into two groups of departments.

Step 2. Enter the data

Set up the first part of the worksheet and enter your initial data. The rest of the worksheet will usually depend on the data entered in the first section. Save this to a file with the Save command and give it a name that lets you know it is the first half of a worksheet. (Such as PROJ1.)

Step 3. Set up the second half of the worksheet.

Now, set up the second half of the worksheet. When doing this, leave a blank column (or row if your worksheet is separated by rows) into which the data may be forwarded. In our example above of a yearly projection, we would leave column B in the second worksheet blank (using column A for labels). This will be the space that the data from part I is copied into. Set up the rest of your worksheet to reference column B as if it were part of the previous worksheet.

Step 4. Carry the needed data forward.

Now let's carry the data from the first worksheet onto the second. For our example, let's assume that the first six month projection left the final totals in column Z. We now type the following:

/Load,PROJ1,

When the prompt comes up for "All or Part?" type **P** for Part. The prompt now reads:

From? **Z1:Z100**

Enter the range of data on the original worksheet that we wish to access (assuming that our projection went only to row 100). Press return. The prompt now shows:

"To? **B1**

Here we enter the upper left hand cell that we are transferring to. In this case, B1. Now type a comma and a series of options will appear:

Ask for Adjust, No Adjust, Values? **V**

Enter a **V** for values. If we did not do this, we would carry the formulas forward which would give erroneous answers in the context of the current worksheet.

Now, the data has been carried forward and the projection is complete. You should immediately save this second part with a name that reflects that it is the second half (such as PROJ2).

For those of you with SuperCalc version 1.10 and later, you may use the eExecute command to make this repetitive loading simpler. Place the exact keys you have typed above into a file as detailed in the eExecute instructions.



TRIGONOMETRY FUNCTIONS IN SUPERCALC

SuperCalc can perform trigonometric functions! This may bring back sweet memories of high school math classes. We think you will find it valuable. We therefore present the following information on the powers of the SuperCalc trigonometric functions:

SIN(x), COS(x), TAN(x) Trig functions
ASIN(x), ATAN(x) Arc functions

Additional higher math functions:

LN(x), LOG10(x) Logarithms
EXP(x), 10..x Inverse Logarithms
EXP(x) = e^x

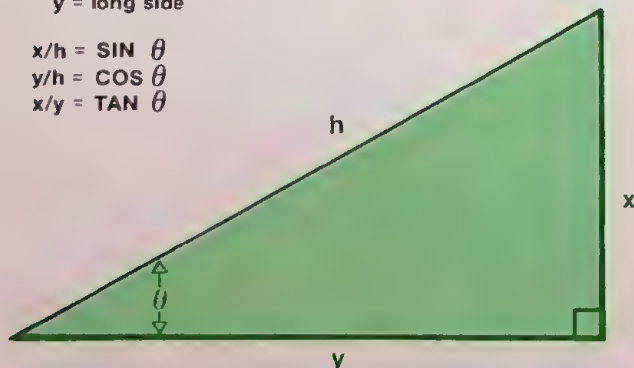
The following special functions are also available:

squareroot	[SQRT(x)]
sum	[SUM(range)]
average	[AVERAGE(range)]
count	[COUNT(range)]
min	[MIN(range)]
max	[MAX(range)]
integer	[INT(x)]
absolute value	[ABS(x)]

All of these functions as well as the four basic functions (*, /, +, -) are fully supported by the 16 digit precision used by the SuperCalc program.

h = hypotenuse
x = short side
y = long side

$x/h = \sin \theta$
 $y/h = \cos \theta$
 $x/y = \tan \theta$



AND WHEN I AM ELECTED
(BEEP) . . .

In the midst of all of this technical nonsense, I'd like to draw your attention to the purely cultural aspects of your microcomputer. Why not? There's computer music and laser art. There's even history about computers.

With the first generation computers begetting second generation computers, and so forth, it would take a computer genealogist to keep it straight. (They beget faster than we do!) We even have computer movie stars, like HAL 9000 in the movie "2001: A Space Odyssey" and the computer aboard the Starship Enterprise.

I can envision the day when our digital friends demand computer culture and history courses at public universities, laws regulating their labor to 40 hours of Pac-Man® per week, and the right to vote. In fact, there may come a day when we have a computer for President!

SUPERCALC **IS AVAILABLE FOR CP/M-86!**

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SMALL BUSINESS ACCOUNTING SYSTEM TEMPLATES

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DELETING FILES FROM SUPERCALC

When using SuperCalc you may sometimes want to delete a file. Deleting a file is particularly useful to free up extra space on a disk. Deleting a file can remove old ".BAK" (backup) files that may be on your diskette. This is how to delete a file:

1. Look at the disk directory to see which file you wish to delete. This can be done with the Delete command (you will not have to go out of your way and use the Save or Load commands).

2. Type /Delete

The prompt reads:

R(ow), C(olumn), F(ile)?

3. Now type "F" for File. The prompt now reads:

Enter filename (or (RETURN) for directory)

If you wish to see the directory of the disk first, press RETURN here. If you already know the name of the file you wish to delete, type the name here and press RETURN. If you wish to delete an old backup file (created when using the Backup option of the Save command) then type "FILENAME.BAK". If the file is a SuperCalc file, the normal default extension will be .CAL on the end of the file name. You may enter "FILENAME.CAL" here or simply "FILENAME".

Where we use "FILENAME" you should use the full name of the file that you wish to delete. CP/M™ "wildcards" are not permitted, and you may delete no more than one file at a time.

INVESTMENT OVERLAYS FOR SUPERCALC™

Stock Pricing Model —Determine target buy prices

Option Strategy Model —Compute rate of return for six option strategies

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RealData, Inc. P.O. Box 691 Southport, CT 06490
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INTERACTIVE TRAINING FOR SUPERCALC

ATI's Plan-Power Interactive Training Disk teaches you to use SuperCalc with simple, step-by-step, plain-English instructions. It guides you through creating, modifying, manipulating, saving, retrieving and printing a table—responding to your entries just like SuperCalc does. It comes with an easy-to-use Handbook that organizes all the most common SuperCalc commands for fast reference on the job. Similar training is available for CP/M, IBM PC-DOS, WordStar and dBASE II. \$75 each, from Software Training Company, 1025 Ocean Avenue, Suite 204-S, Santa Monica, CA 90403 (213) 546-5579.

Advertisement

INCOME TAX PREPARATION ON SUPERCALC

TAXMAN-83 with SuperCalc prepares your form 1040. This template series includes all forms and schedules in IRS approved printable format. The logic provided will identify your deductions which exceed statistical standards, compare this year's data and tax results with last year's, and will flag forms which change due to last minute changes in your input. Complete set of all forms and instructions are included in the comprehensive manual. Order from Atsuko Computing International, Inc. Suite 1132, 303 Williams Avenue, Huntsville, Alabama 35801 (1-205-533-7590) \$95.00 plus \$4.00 shipping. MC/VISA accepted. Taxman will be shipped January 31, 1983.

Advertisement

PASCAL CORNER

WRITING EASY-TO-READ PASCAL/M PROGRAMS

Always write your Pascal/M programs as clearly as possible. This will make the programs easier to maintain. If they are written well, you can make changes again and again without spending hours trying to decipher what it was that you were trying to do when you originally wrote them. Here are some simple guidelines to follow when writing your programs:

1. *Use meaningful variable names.* When using Pascal/M, you may use up to 8 characters in a name and it will still be a unique name. More than eight characters may be used, however any character after the 8th character will be ignored when comparing two variable names for uniqueness. Make the names as clear and meaningful as possible. Example:

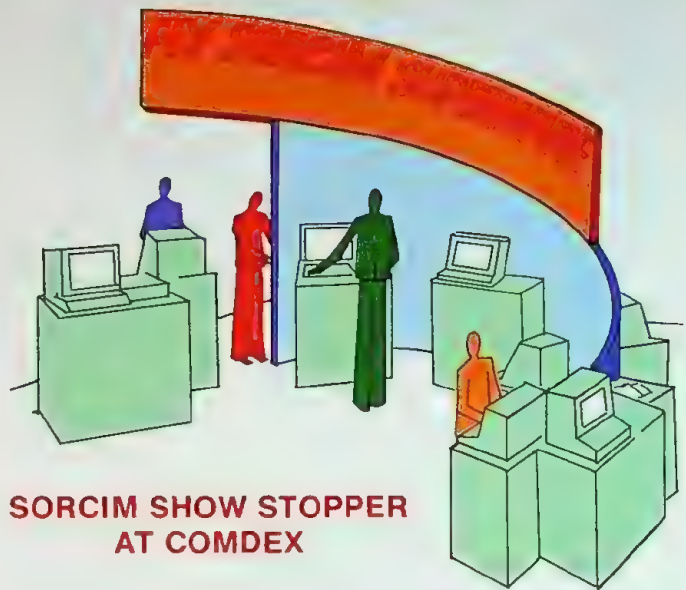
Use "Rec No" for a variable that is to be a record number instead of "RN" or some other undecipherable name.

2. *Add comments with purpose.* Well placed comments will make the program easier to read. Your comments will NOT affect the time it takes to compile by more than a small amount. And while you know what the code is supposed to do now, comments will help you remember next week when you need to modify the program.

You may think that comments make a program look cluttered. This is not always the case. When comments are placed in a neat and organized manner, they can be a great aid to the program maintainer. It should be standard practice to set aside a block at the beginning of the section to detail what the section does and how it will do it. This helps prevent having a "cluttered" look in the middle of a difficult piece of code.

In fact, it is useful to add a comment at the beginning of every procedure to describe what the procedure will do, how it will do it and what, if any, algorithm is used. This may also state the entrance and exit parameters and their purpose.

3. *Indent properly.* The "standard" is to indent each block by three (3) spaces. This makes it easy to see where blocks of code such as IF or CASE statements start and end.



**SORCIM SHOW STOPPER
AT COMDEX**

Sorcim's eye-catching display at COMDEX was a creative adventure in dimension and design—a sure Show Stopper! The unconfined space contained only one wall-like surface which curved in increasing height to display Sorcim's message, "Fly Sorcim SuperWare." The message soared above the terminal displays and captivated show participants.

SORCIM? (pronounced Source-em)

What a strange name for a company. What type of company was it, what did they do? Oh well as a Kelly girl I had been to so many companies one more didn't make any difference. Oh it didn't? From my first day I found the people warm and very friendly, and dedicated to the work they did. I wanted to be part of it.

Well, now I am, in Production, Shipping/Receiving and Inventory Control. This is something I had very little to do with in my past work experience, and talk about being frightened—I don't know one part number from another but I'm learning. I get lots of help. As I said the people are warm and friendly and give me all the support and help I need. They are dedicated and this is the same effort they put into the product you receive. So come along with Sorcim.

(continued from previous column)

4. *Keep procedures small.* When writing the program keep the procedures small. Give each procedure a well defined purpose.

More on writing Pascal/M programs in upcoming issues of SuperNews!

TRY IT OUT! EXPERIMENT!

My six-year-old nephew came to visit for the weekend and I thought it might be interesting for him to use my home computer. His previous knowledge of computers was limited to the video games at the roller skating rink. So, I somewhat nervously took a seat next to him, booted up, and loaded a program. Then he took over. He wasn't particularly interested in hearing any explanations—he just wanted to see how the work of his fingers affected what he saw on the screen. So he tried all of the "buttons" in every imaginable combination and was entranced for hours (until his mother firmly asserted that it was, in fact, bedtime).

While watching my nephew, I noticed a great difference between us. He wanted to see how things worked. I wanted to know and understand everything first. (I hesitate to admit this, but I was even worse when I first got my computer—what if I pressed the wrong key? What if I broke something?) Eric had none of these inhibitions. And I realized the potential there is for experimentation and learning by *doing* and *trying*.

Any well-designed software package (or operating system) has ways of recovering from virtually any error. There's really nothing to fear and nothing to lose. I would advise, however, that you make back-up copies of your files on a regular basis. It's a good practice regardless of how adventurous—or chicken—you are.

This is not to say that you should ignore the documentation that comes with your software. Use it as a starting point and reference guide. But be creative—take initiative! If you're not sure how a command works—try it! If you wonder what effect a certain change will have—change it! You can always change it back again. This is true whether you're creating a SuperCalc worksheet or writing a Pascal/M program. Do it!!! You'll find that experimenting can be a great adventure. If you're like me, you may end up staying up well past your bedtime!



SUPERCHART IS COMING!

Sorcim's SuperChart™ graphics software will provide a convenient way to produce business graphics from the data produced by the SuperCalc program.

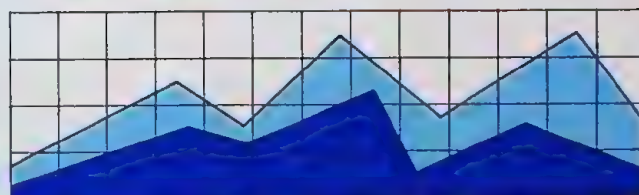
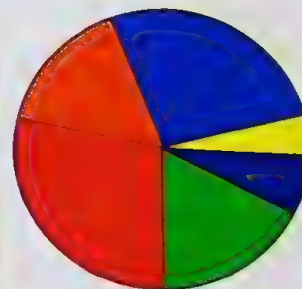
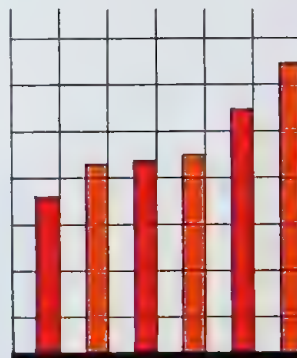
Features include:

- High quality Business graphics.
Graphics available:

BAR CHARTS

PIE CHARTS

LINE GRAPHS



- A SuperCalc-like User Interface for greatest ease of use.
- Ability to read data files produced by SuperCalc—using SuperCalc column and row designations.
- Flexible ways of specifying labels, legends, etc. with intelligent defaults so that a user can be up and running with a minimum of fuss.
- Support of a large variety of computer systems and graphic output devices, including:

Plotters

Color and Monochrome Printers

Graphics Terminals

Direct Graphic Memory such as the IBM PC!

Watch for Sorcim's SuperChart graphics software.



SuperCalc	version 1.12
IBM PC only	version 1.11
ACT™ assemblers	version 3.5F
Pascal/M™	version 4.05
Pascal/M-86™	version 4.05
SuperCalc Documentation	1.0

HOW TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE

To update your SuperCalc program (or most any Sorcim product), first contact the dealer you purchased the product from. Your dealer will be able to interface with Sorcim Customer Support requiring a minimum of effort on your part.

You **MUST** have the serial number and version of your Sorcim product. Please have this ready whenever talking to your dealer or Sorcim Customer Support.

The cost for an update is \$50.00.

If the product you purchased has a label other than the Sorcim label (i.e. Zenith, Xerox, Osborne, etc.), please contact that distributor directly for an update. Also, there are some distributors handling other formats which we ourselves cannot support such as DEC VT-180, ALS Synergizer, etc. In these instances, you must go directly to the distributor who manufactured your diskette to get an update.

If your program was manufactured by Sorcim directly, here are the steps to follow:

1. Call Sorcim Customer Support for a Return Authorization number. Have your serial number and version ready.
2. After receiving your Return Authorization number, ship the Master Diskette to Sorcim in a sturdy cardboard container. Do NOT ship the manual back, just the diskette. Enclose a cover letter with the RA number you were given and \$50.00 to cover the cost of the update.
3. Upon receipt of package, Sorcim will ship you a new Master Diskette and a new registration card to be filled out and returned to Sorcim.

SORCIM HAS MOVED!

We've moved to a new location in San Jose so we can be together to serve you better. We were formerly in two buildings in Santa Clara.

Here is the new information:

ADDRESS: 2310 Lundy Avenue
San Jose, CA 95131

PHONE: (408) 942-1727

TELEX: 910 338 2003

Our New Home

Getting ready to move you could feel the excitement in the air. Everyone was packing boxes, taking pictures and bulletin boards off the wall, tagging furniture and equipment from the old building only to lay it all out again at the new one. Anticipation was growing—Sorcim was finally moving to a new home on Lundy Avenue! Several of our stronger guys moved all the equipment; the furniture had been moved by a moving company. Sorcim celebrated in style by having a picnic to help everyone recover from their unpacking chores. Delicious barbecued chicken, done to perfection by our own chefs, various salads, bread and cake were served. The move went without a hitch. Everyone had a good time, but don't ask the tired survivors to move again soon.



"OH, THE SUPERCALC PEOPLE"

I was at a party one evening and was asked where I worked. I replied, "Sorcim Corporation." The response was "Oh, the SuperCalc people." The woman said, "I'm a computer programmer and we use your program where I work. We think it's great!" That was really nice.

Actually, we don't mind if you don't know us by our company name, SORCIM. You can call us SuperCalc, if you like. But if you *do* know us by SORCIM—we love it!



HELP US TO HELP YOU!!!

When calling Sorcim Customer Support, please have the Serial number and version of the program you are using ready. This will help by giving us pertinent information on your specific copy. The best place to get this information is from the Master Diskette that you purchased.

Our purpose here at Sorcim Customer Support is to help you! We believe that we have the best customer support in the micro-computer software industry.

Our hours are 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM PST.
The phone number is (408) 942-1727.

Articles, advertisements, applications and views expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of Sorcim Corporation.

ARE YOU MOVING?

If you have moved recently or are planning to move soon, please fill out the change of address form below and return it to SuperNews. We want to keep you informed of new updates, new products and good news!

PLEASE PRINT:

NAME _____		
STREET _____		APT. NO _____
CITY _____	STATE _____	ZIP _____
PRODUCTS _____		
SERIAL NO (S) _____ MUST BE INCLUDED		



SuperCalc is truly an international product. So, it is not uncommon for Sorcim Customer Support to receive calls from around the world. One day recently we received a call from a local ham radio operator who was ready to relay a radio transmission from a group of missionaries in Central Brazil!

These missionaries had an Osborne One computer donated to them and they were having difficulty in setting up an "IF" statement. Amazing, that there in the midst of a town that doesn't have something as basic as a telephone, there is a group of men gathered around this high technology hardware and software doing powerful spreadsheet analysis to help the people who live there. What made the conversation interesting was the fact that each of us would have to explain our questions and answers thoroughly and then say "OVER" before the other could speak. It's amazing how clear and concise explanations can be when you have to speak, say "Over", then listen for a reply. Needless to say, we gained some loyal SuperCalc users down in Brazil. I wonder if they were using a battery pack . . . "OVER".



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FOURTH QUARTER 1982

ISSUE NO. 3

2310 Lundy Avenue San Jose, CA 95131 (408) 942-1727

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SORCIM SuperNews

for Sorcim product users

SuperCalc³ IS HERE!



1983
VOL. 2

#2

Letter from the President of Sorcim

Dear SuperNews Reader:

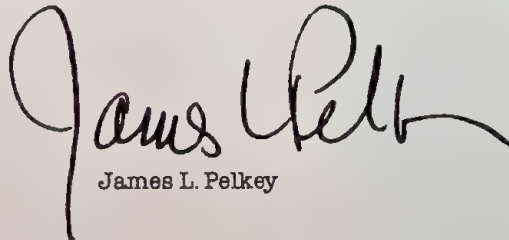
As promised, we have some super news for you this quarter. We delayed the printing of our end user publication—SuperNews—in order to provide you with immediate notification of the introduction of SuperCalc³™. Our first announcement to the world was at the CP/M Trade Show in Boston, which predates your reading this issue by only a matter of weeks. By using SuperNews to announce our major new product, we are acting on our commitment to make you, our registered user, a particularly important customer to Sorcim.

It is not only SuperCalc³ that is new this month, but also the revised format of SuperNews, which has been expanded and changed to reflect the requests of the many readers who have taken time to share their opinions with us. We hope you find the many informative articles on the features of SuperCalc and SuperWriter to be helpful and improve your understanding of these powerful productivity tools.

Another obvious program is the Sorcim Access™ catalogue. We intend to continually expand and improve the products offered in our catalogue, and you will find information in this issue of SuperNews advising you how you can participate in our efforts.

For those of you who have not read about a new class of computers called mobile computers being introduced this Fall, we have articles on our software, including two new packages, SuperComm™ and SuperPlanner™, that will be available on the major new mobile offerings. Based on the acceptance of these software packages, you can expect us to make these products available on the more widely distributed computers.

Let me last add that Sorcim, like many of the firms in this industry, is in a period of transition. It is no longer sufficient to offer the highest quality products for sale, but the time has come to begin developing an organization that can market, sell, service and support those products. Sorcim is committed to you, our user and, in recognition of our responsibilities, we are taking those steps necessary to become the leading supplier of productivity software for the personal computer. In order for us to accomplish our ambitious objectives, we cannot and will not forget you, our customer. We are committed to improving our communications with you, and hope this new format of SuperNews is helpful and demonstrates this commitment. As you read this publication, or any time you are using our products, should you have any questions or need assistance, please give us a call. We want to help you.



James L. Pelkey

SuperCalc³

The Cover Story

You Came for the Spreadsheet, Now Stay for the View

SORCIM is proud to announce to our customers, SuperCalc³, the latest addition to our SuperCalc family of spreadsheets. When you see this program in action, you will agree that it sets new standards for electronic spreadsheets, just as SuperCalc did when it was first introduced.

SuperCalc³ starts with the advanced spreadsheet of SuperCalc² and adds to it fully integrated presentation quality graphics and a data management capability that performs in a context that is meaningful for spreadsheets.

You can access the graphics in SuperCalc³ with a single keystroke to either view or plot. All the graphics capabilities are contained within the system, so there is no need to change disks or to create an output file for printing or plotting.

The initial release of the SuperCalc³ is for the IBM PC and certain PC look-alikes. For these machines, it will require a minimum of 96K of user memory under MS-DOS 2.0. You don't have to have a Color/Graphics Adapter or a plotter to use SuperCalc³, but if you do, you'll be able to see the full sophistication of the product. If you don't, you will be able to see "preview graphics", and produce presentation quality output on a plotter. And if you have both a color and monochrome board, the graph and spreadsheet update simultaneously.

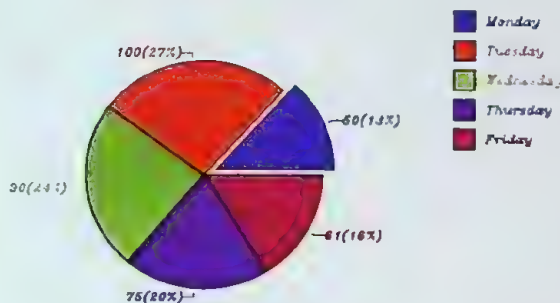
Later releases of SuperCalc³ will cover many of the machines that we currently support with SuperCalc and SuperCalc². For some graphics machines, SuperCalc³ will display the graphics on your terminal.

The new data management capabilities in SuperCalc³ allow you to find and extract records from a data base area within a spreadsheet. These capabilities might be used to find (display on the monitor) or extract (to an open spreadsheet area) text, dates, or numbers—for example: to find a name in a telephone directory.

You will find that the new commands in SuperCalc³ match the feel and spirit of the command structure of both SuperCalc and SuperCalc². And as always, we have maintained upwards compatibility for files you have created in either SuperCalc or SuperCalc² so they are useable in SuperCalc³ with no modifications. In fact, you can even take

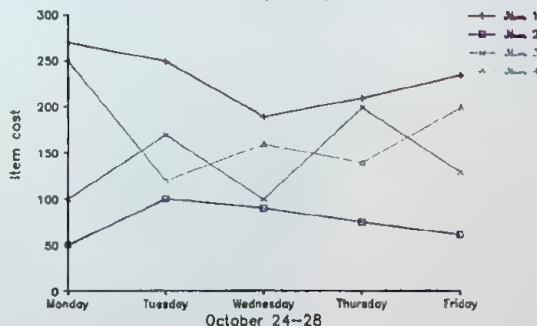
These are the 7 types of graphs in SuperCalc³.

Graph-Types
Pie Graph Example: 1 Segment Explosion



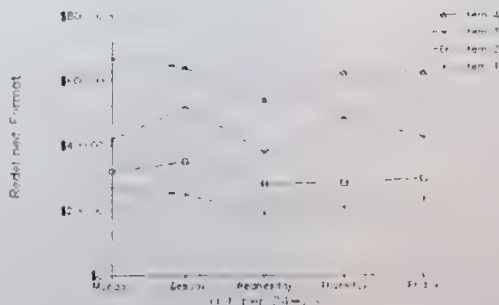
1. Pie Graph. Each segment is sized automatically based on the total of the data points in the variable range. Pie graphs are available with up to 8 sections exploded (slightly withdrawn from the pie), at your request. You choose whether to have the segments of the pies filled-in, cross hatched or outlined—in color or black & white. (Drawn with a Hewlett-Packard 7470A Plotter).

Graph-Types
Line Graph Example



2. Line Graphs. A two dimensional graph with the horizontal axis representing the number of data points and the vertical axis representing the magnitude of each variable in each cell. The number of lines represents the number of variables. (Drawn with a Hewlett-Packard 7470A Plotter).

Graph-Types
Area Graph Example



3. Area Graph. An area graph is essentially a cumulative line graph. (Printed with an Epson MX-100 III Printer).

files created on an 8 bit machine and transport them using a communications package to a 16 bit machine, where they are useable directly.

Other new features in SuperCalc³ are: 2 key sort and additional financial functions. The new financial functions we've included are internal rate of return (IRR), future value, the present value of an annuity, and simple payment stream. Experienced SuperCalc users will appreciate that quotation marks are no longer necessary to enter text. SuperCalc³ recognizes the difference between text and formulas.

You will soon see that SuperCalc³ is the best integrated spreadsheet in the industry. The graphics we provide are substantially better than any competing product, and at the same time, much faster. The production of hard copy graphics begins immediately with the press of a single key. The accompanying illustrations will help you understand how you can use SuperCalc³ in your work.

As with all SORCIM products, you will find SuperCalc³ easy to learn. There are no incompatibilities with previous versions of SuperCalc. There are two new slash commands, /View and /D. All graph descriptions are built using /View. This is where you define the data ranges, the graph type, and all of the labels associated with the graph. Data management is accessed using /D. With this command, data areas are defined and search criteria is set. Records that match the criteria can be extracted to an output area or located with the cursor.

There won't be a need to learn a new command structure. Of the slash commands with which you are already familiar, we have added these additional capabilities.

/Load: There is new option that allows you to load graph descriptions from other files. This gives you an unlimited number of graphs for each spreadsheet.

/Blank: In addition to blanking cells, you can now blank graph descriptions.

/Copy: Copy has been expanded so that you can copy one graph description into another graph description, to save time in generating new graphs.

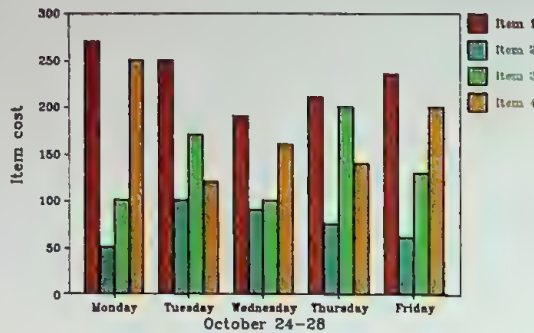
/Global: There are a new series of global options available under /Global, Graphics. These allow you to set colors and fonts for each ingredient of a graph and to specify the type of graphic equipment you are using. You can save these settings directly into your SuperCalc³ program without using a separate installation program.

SuperCalc³ will be shipped with a full manual that includes a revised series of lessons, and a new 10 Minutes to SuperCalc³ tutorial. Shipments began October 24, 1983 for the IBM PC and PC compatibles.

Upgrades from SuperCalc to SuperCalc³ will cost \$225.00 and from SuperCalc² to SuperCalc³ an upgrade will cost \$125.00. For more information on how to upgrade, consult the Sorcim Access catalog in the center of this issue of SuperNews.

Graph-Types

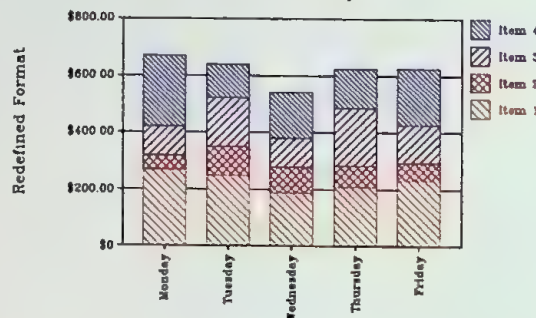
Bar Graph Example



4. Bar Graph. Two dimensional like the line graph. In this graph the number of bars per cluster represent the number of variables. (Drawn with a Hewlett-Packard 7470A Plotter).

Graph-Types

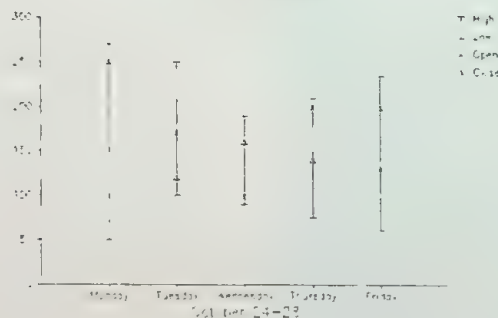
Stacked-Bar Example



5. Stack Bar Graph. Stack bar is a cumulative bar graph. (Drawn with a Hewlett-Packard 7470A Plotter).

Graph-Types

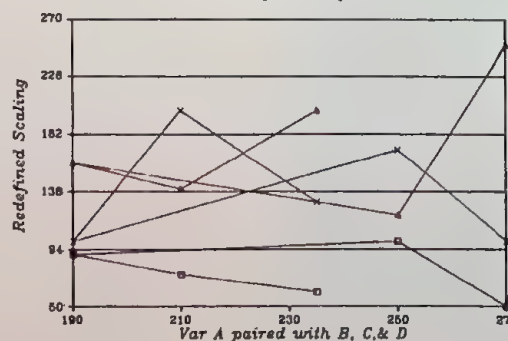
Hi-Lo Example



6. Hi-Lo Graph. This is the type of graph you normally find in stock market analysis, showing the high, low, and closing point for the stock during the day. (Printed with an Epson MX 100 III Printer).

Graph-Types

X-Y Graph Example



7. X-Y graph. An X-Y graph is a special type of graph that allows you to plot one variable against another variable; for example, budgeted vs actual sales for each month of a quarter. (Drawn with a Hewlett-Packard 7470A Plotter).

Good SoftWare Travels Fast!

There's a new generation of small light-weight computers coming. These miniaturized midgets are complete systems—computer, display, disk and/or bubble storage, printer, and portable power pack—that can fit in a briefcase. Their contribution to state of the art computing is low cost, working portability. They are called “mobiles”.

Luggable vs. Mobile

Portable computers have been produced for the past few years. The OSBORNE 1 is probably the first example of a portable. However, the current generation are portable only in the sense that they can be carried in a piecemeal fashion. The size and weight of a complete system (computer, display, bulk storage, & printer) are still too large to fit inside a briefcase and be useable without external power. However, since the word “portable” has already been attached to systems from OSBORNE, COMPAQ, KAY-PRO, etc., a new system of classification has been devised. The current generation of machines are classified “luggable” and the new generation of truly portable computers go by the name: “mobile”.

To be sure, credit for the first “mobile” computer really ought to go to GRID SYSTEMS, since their ten pound Compass is a packaged computer light enough to be “portable”, and small enough, including display and bubble memory, to go anywhere and be used anytime—without hooking up to an external power source.

Now, two more competitors have come on the scene, with more waiting in the wings to announce new products. SHARP and GAVILAN each are introducing lightweight (ten pounds or so) mobile computers with 8 line X 80 column liquid crystal display screens. Both 8088/MS-DOS based machines are available with built-in or optional thermal printers, modems, and floppy disks. Both will offer versions that cost under \$4,000—less than half of the GRID Compass price.

New Products Plus Integration

SORCIM is proud to be producing software for the mobile class of computers. Four products—SuperCalc2, SuperWriter, SuperComm, and SuperPlanner—have been specially implemented to work with the



smaller displays and other features of the mobiles. SORCIM calls its new, fully-integrated product family “SuperTools” for the busy professional.

All SORCIM SuperTools are function-key driven from a MasterMenu. Just press a key, and easy-to-use menus appear on the screen. As with all SORCIM products, the AnswerScreen offers instant HELP, whenever you need it. If you're on the go, you can even leave your manuals behind! The AnswerScreens and menus for each SuperTool will guide you at the touch of a key.

As SuperCalc2 and or SuperWriter users, you're aware of what those products can do; however, you've probably never heard of SuperComm or SuperPlanner. These new products add substantially to the power and versatility of the SORCIM product family.

SuperComm

SuperComm allows you to send text, data, and programs over telephone lines (using modems) to other computer systems. SuperComm makes it possible for people to improve personal productivity and shorten information response times.

- Salespeople can use SuperComm to send and receive the latest data to and from headquarters: receive new pricing infor-

mation, send in orders, obtain shipping information, and do a host of other things that used to take days by mail.

- Stockbrokers (and their customers) can use SuperComm to plug into data base services like the Dow Jones Newswire, the Source, and CompuData, to obtain up-to-the-minute stock quotes, news and weather, travel reservations, and U.S. census data. This information can be stored on the mobile computer's bulk storage device and/or immediately printed out for use.
- Authors, magazine writers, journalists, public relations executives, and other wordsmiths can now continue working on their latest project wherever they are, store the text in memory, and then when access to a phone is possible, use SuperComm to send their latest work directly to the office for review and processing.
- Accountants, executives and financial analysts can use SuperComm to obtain the latest budget or financial data while traveling or working on weekends, process the information with SuperCalc2, then send the completed results or response back to the office the same day.

SuperComm lets you "be there" without the hassle and time lost of "going there". It gives your other powerful SuperTools like SuperCalc² and SuperWriter even more capability.

SuperPlanner

SuperPlanner is a computerized executive notebook that replaces, and substantially improves upon, such well known personal planning devices as calendars, daily appointment books, address and telephone books, and detailed activity logs.

In addition, SuperPlanner has a general purpose "Build your own" task/event manager. Use the computer for specific repetitive tasks such as managing sales prospects, or contacting clients about new information important to their business. This extremely useful capability is called the "card box", because 3"x5" index cards have been a handy way to tackle organizing these chores in the past.

Using SuperPlanner is easy. Imagine, if you could, that you had to use a very large book or write down every little detail and appointment you'd like to keep track of on a daily basis. You probably would organize it into a calendar/appointment section, an address book section, a note pad for jotting down important reminders, and a hefty section in the back to keep track of important day-to-day job related information (the "card box"). Of course, few people could stand dragging that big book around. The effort to enter all the data, continually find what you need at any point in time, and properly manipulate it (change, sort, copy, analyze, and store), is substantially greater than the benefit of having it!

Imagine that some magical process could take away all of the work of finding and manipulating the data in the book, only leaving you with the smaller task of entering the original data and occasionally asking questions (very much like an extremely competent secretary): Is it worthwhile?

If you say yes, you are going to love SuperPlanner, because that is exactly what it does!

The advent of the mobile computer makes SuperPlanner even more attractive. Now you can take your "secretary" home with you, on trips, and even on vacation! SuperPlanner can tell you simple things like what's on the agenda for today, or what top priority tasks you ought to be working on. It can also tell you complicated things like expenses between 1/1/83 and 3/4/83, or how

many sales calls you made last month in Ohio. SuperPlanner lets you store information away into many categories (you pick the names), and then find it again using multiple selection criteria.

If you are a busy person on the go, or just want to organize your life, a mobile computer and SuperPlanner may be the way to get organized!

The SuperTools have a special added feature for the mobile environment—they're fully-integrated. Just use the MasterMenu to move from one SuperTool to another. The "ScratchPad" provides temporary storage as you go. For example, you can build a spreadsheet with SuperCalc², then write out specific rows and columns to the ScratchPad. Quit SuperCalc² and enter SuperWriter from the MasterMenu. Write a report, then include your spreadsheet from the ScratchPad right into your report—just by pressing a function key. Save your file, then enter SuperPlanner and coordinate your itinerary for the next day. Write your itinerary out to the ScratchPad. Enter SuperComm from the MasterMenu, dial up your office or a colleague on the road, and transfer your report and your next day's itinerary from the ScratchPad. Everything is easy, and menus and instant HELP are at the touch of a key!

Other improvements to SuperTools include making extensive use of the eight function keys, and utilizing the bottom line on the LCD screen for a hierarchy of menus to guide you through the entire process—from operating system choices like disk directory listings and copying operations, to option choices for specific SuperWriter or SuperCalc² commands.

Why Own a Mobile?

Although the mobile computers have some limitations, they also have one overwhelming feature: they allow you to have access to a fully functional computer system in situations where you normally would have had to do without. With the addition of SuperComm and a modem, you can even have your cake and eat it too: you can have all of the advantages of the mobiles, yet still be able to tap into the archival files and printing resources of the home base.

The best examples of people who will like the new mobiles are people on the go: writers, salespeople, financial analysts, and the

like. Others who will really benefit from the new mobiles are people who normally work with personal computers at the office, and want to work at home or on vacation (spouses permitting), without trying to drag a regular sized computer system around with them. With the mobiles, it's simple: just start processing your list of tasks whenever and wherever you can find the time (it only takes seconds to set the hardware up and turn it on), store the results on a floppy, bubble cartridge, or other medium, depending on the machine. Then, use SuperComm or, when you're back at the office, transfer the contents to the home based computer facility for printing, storage, or processing.

As the capabilities of the mobiles increase, you can be sure that SORCIM will be there—continuously increasing the useability of our family of SuperTools.

New for SuperWriters

New, Improved SuperWriter: What the Enhancements Mean for You

A new version of SuperWriter, Version 1.01, is scheduled for release December 24, 1983. It will be available for CP/M 2.2, CP/M 86 and IBM PC-DOS compatible systems.

The two primary new features are custom default settings and the Execute function. **User-Defined Default Settings:** SW.DEF SuperWriter comes with built-in default settings for a host of editing and printing operations. You can change most of these settings when you edit (Global Document Settings), print (Change Format Settings) or by using embedded format commands.

The new SW.DEF capability gives you a fourth way: set up your own default settings in a file called SW.DEF. Every time SuperWriter is invoked, it will look for the SW.DEF file. If it finds it, SuperWriter will conform to your selections.

The SW.DEF file is just an ordinary text file that you create with SuperWriter and store on the program disk. There are over thirty five default settings you can define. For example, you can define:

Document Disk Drive: Tell SuperWriter where to look for documents. Very handy with two disk drives: SuperWriter may be on drive A and your documents on the floppy in B.

Operator: When using SuperWriter for office word processing, this will automatically record who's doing the typing.

Tab Settings: Start word processing with your settings already there.

Line width and margins: You may have a particular format that all your documents must fit, e.g. company letterhead. Predefine your document so that you can't help but get it right.

Dictionary: Specify the dictionary of your choice, whether it be your regular SuperSpellGuard dictionary or a specialized technical dictionary.

The Execute Function

As in SuperCalc, the Execute command in SuperWriter is a way to automate a series of repetitive keystrokes. Save them in a SuperWriter file with an .XQT extension. The next time you want to Execute that sequence of keystrokes type:

[ESC]X filename

or to invoke the Execute file through the operating system command line that calls up

SuperWriter by typing:

SW filename.

Some of the popular applications include:

GLOBAL SEARCH AND REPLACE—a normal search and replace command (ESC R) only performs its function within a single file. What if you are writing a book, have each chapter in a separate file, and want to change the name of the leading character throughout the book? Execute can solve this problem by calling up each file (chapter), setting up the Replace command, storing the file and going on to the next one.

INSERTING TEXT—when a string of words, or multiple strings of words are needed throughout a complex document (e.g., a contract), multiple execute files can be set up, each with a different name. All you have to do to insert a whole sen-

tence or paragraph is type

[ESC]X filename

and the text appears at the cursor position.

Both SW.DEF and Execute are features that increase the power of SuperWriter without tampering with its accessibility. We at SORCIM are proud that you can finish your first letter on SuperWriter within ten minutes at the keyboard. Yet, when you finish up your two-thousandth letter you will appreciate the versatility and flexibility of the advanced features of SuperWriter.

Note: Registered users of SuperWriter PC 1.00 will receive an update to version 1.01 gratis. This version supports special features of the IBM/EPSON printers. If you have not received a form for ordering this update, contact the SORCIM ACCESS.

Which Letter???

SuperWriter's primary goal is to make word processing easier. One of the ways it does this is by creating an information record for each document called the Document History.

Often document names in the disk directory begin to look alike (MEMO1, MEMO2,...) and it becomes very difficult to tell them apart. Unless you have a very good memory, you will probably find having a small history on each document very handy. SuperWriter opens a document history every time you begin a new document. In this document history you can enter the author's name, the operator (the typist), a document number, a comment, and the creation date.

This information will be enough to remind you about each file. The document history is indispensable when you want to locate specific files. For example, the author

entry allows you to spot correspondence or reports written by the vice president of your company. The operator entry lets you check the new office help's work or determine who sent the last letter to one of your customers. The comment section has room to write a small reminder (24 characters), such as a company name or internal division title.

The document number can be used to record invoice numbers, account numbers or to set up your filing system. In the document history you can note the number of times you have revised a letter or contract. You can also enter the date of the last modification of a file. Even revision of the document history itself is simple to do through the utilities section of SuperWriter.

As the document history is saved with each document, it actually becomes the document's I.D. card. Anytime you view the disk directory, you can choose to see the document history of the files listed.

SAMPLE DOCUMENT HISTORY

Document:	B:MEMO	SuperWriter 1.01 00:23
Comment :	RE: Smithvale Plant	
Doc num :	200F	Revision # 2
Author :	John Fredrickson	Creation date: 82/09/01
Operator:	Betty Smith	Last mod date: 82/10/18

When "What If?" Becomes "What Next?"

Those of you who have built complicated budgets, sales projections, or anything that gets a lot of management attention know that there is another absolute besides death and taxes: it's called "Rework The Numbers..." Just about the time you have reconstructed your spreadsheet the tenth time to satisfy your own sense of logic, presentability, and accuracy (having stayed up half the night to do it), one of two things always seems to happen: (1) an associate spots a flaw in the data or the logic; or, (2) one of your superiors changes vital assumptions implicit in the analysis ("I know we said that you could assume a total budget of \$2,000,000 for your department, but to make the quarter we have to cut it to \$1,750,000... redo your budget!"). So, back to the terminal you trudge, to do it one more time...

But wait, there's a better way to deal with this kind of frustration: don't try to "lick 'em"... "automate 'em"! Set up your spreadsheet so it can easily be remodeled with just a few keystrokes—over and over again.

The process is simple, once you've gone through it a couple of times. To help explain the approach, we will assume a standard budgeting scenario problem for the XYZ corporation's marketing & sales department. The following discussion references the sample spreadsheet on page 8, labeled:

"MARKETING/SALES BUDGET"

Getting Started

First, you must think hard about the data you are going to insert or input to the spreadsheet, versus the data you want the spreadsheet to calculate and display (output) for you. You must also figure out whether the input data is constant (won't change, no matter what), or variables (somebody just might change that number between now and the time you're done with the spreadsheet). For example, in a typical company, the rent on the building ("FACILITIES EXPENSE") over the next year is usually fixed by contract; thus, that number will be constant, and the only task is to allocate it properly. However, "TOTAL REVENUES" for the next year is a number that is never accurately known until the year is over. When management is worried about declining sales, the usual trick is to spread the ulcers

by making everyone revise their budget downwards; when times are good, many times they want to spend more "building the organization" or "growing market share". Since the value of the "TOTAL REVENUE" perceived by management throughout the year has a very real effect on what you will be able to spend, your budget will vary in some relationship with that value. Thus, "TOTAL REVENUE" is an input variable to your "real world" budget (the only trick is to figure out how to describe that relationship in mathematical terms).

Thus, the formulas and/or data in each cell should represent one of the following kinds of variables:

INDEPENDENT INPUT VARIABLES

Your "assumptions"—the ones you expect someone may change on you in the future. The word independent means that the variable is a simple number in a cell, as opposed to a formula.

INDEPENDENT OUTPUT VARIABLES

Output variables that do not depend upon anything else in the spreadsheet.

These are many times called "plug numbers" because their values are totally subjective estimates "plugged" into holes in the analysis.

INTERMEDIATE INPUT VARIABLES

"Assumptions" that are input to the analysis, but which depend upon other input variables and are themselves used in formulas by other intermediate or output variables.

INTERMEDIATE OUTPUT VARIABLES

Output variables that you want to be calculated, but ones that are also used by other output variables.

DEPENDENT OUTPUT VARIABLES

The output values you are designing the spreadsheet to produce in the first place—values based upon constant data and formulas, and various independent and intermediate variables.

However, by using a few special guidelines, you can become pretty good at dealing with change. There are several types of spreadsheet automation tricks which can be summarized as follows:

Group Your Guesses: (Make it modular)

The rows under "INPUT VARIABLES—CORPORATE" (rows 3 through 6) and "INPUT VARIABLES—MARKETING & SALES" (rows 8 through 21) contain the input variable assumptions (independent input variables and intermediate input variables) that are used in the "EXPENSE BUDGET" part of the worksheet (rows 23 through 48). These are the assumptions that the spreadsheet designer figured would be likely to change as the budget winds its way through the iterative corporate approval process. Of course, if this were your spreadsheet, you would probably have different kinds of input variables, depending upon your perception of budget relationships, and which were the most likely to change.

When you get pretty good at this game, all you have to do when your boss changes the assumptions you started with is make a few modifications to your input variables (e.g., change ANNUAL SALARY ESTIMATES, or TOTAL REVENUES, or QUOTA/SALESMAN), and let SuperCalc do the rest—you'll be able to come up with answers faster than the boss can come up with changes!

The main body of the EXPENSE BUDGET (everything from row 24, "PERSONNEL EXPENSES" to row 48, "% of REVENUES") is made up of output formulas and data that are independent constants or are automatically going to track whatever happens to variables in the input data sections. If you've done it right, you should never have to change anything in the output variable sections (example: "travel & living" costs are calculated by multiplying sales reps + managers by \$3,000 per quarter; thus, if the number of sales reps + managers is subsequently changed, then travel & living costs will change automatically to track).

If you want to dazzle your boss with unexpected blinding speed, don't print out the input variable sections on your final report; just show the expense budget. Five minutes after he changes the manpower assumptions on you, come back with a correct new

Spreadsheet Automation Concepts:

Now that you're up to speed on the kinds of variables, let's get down to work. Laying out the perfect spreadsheet is never an easy task.

budget and catch the look on his face ("how'd you do that so fast?").

Knowledge for the Novice

You might as well plan to use this thing over and over again, each time with a new person who is not familiar with what went on before. Before you are done, you will have gone over it with superiors, subordinates, and peers. Have a column of notes off to the side to help you remember what the formulas are doing (remember, there will be plenty of times when you or someone else will not be near the computer terminal to interrogate for formulas).

Use a "structured programming" approach to documenting: indent detailed sections of summary totals, put subtotals at the bottom, not the top of a section, etc.

Be consistent: don't have one note say "employees X \$660/quarter" and another say "employees X \$2640/year"; think hard about tides—do they say what they mean? Separate sections by some kind of border (*****). When putting formulas into cells, choose the formats more for documentation audit trails than for mathematical elegance (e.g., since most people think in terms of annual amounts, make your notes in terms of annual amounts and create formulas that initially calculate annual amounts and then divide by 4 to get the correct quarterly amounts). Recognize that the dummy who

is unable to fathom what you did six months earlier may very well be yourself!

Identify the document by file name and revision level at the top left, with the title at the top right (don't forget, SuperCalc will list the first cell of the spreadsheet whenever you ask to see the directory). If you don't identify the revision, you will get lost in the iterative process ("Is this the first revision from the third or the third revision from the first?").

Don't be in such a big hurry to destroy old files of previous revisions: keep a file of each revision level that was approved by management. It is quite common for several budgets to get "approved" in a year, and you will want to keep good records of what you really did say nine months ago...

Position to Perambulate Properly:

Line things up so that you can make extensive use of the replicate command in SuperCalc: to the extent possible, try to set it up so that you only have to construct one row or column, then simply replicate from there (e.g., in the expense budget example, once the first quarter column of formulas was put in, the other three were simply replicated by the command: /R B25:B48, C25:E25).

Do all the independent output variables last (the old "plug" numbers...): if they are completed too early in the process, the column replicate command will change them.

You will simply get duplicates of the plug numbers in the column that was replicated).

When performing summary arithmetic, use expressions that allow future row/column insertion/deletion, because you will most certainly delete or insert things in the future (e.g., SUM B11:E11, instead of B11 + C11 + D11 + E11).

Stay away from "forward references" (that's where you have a formula that references (uses) a cell that is positioned further along (forward) in the calculation sequence. The most likely result of forward references is that values calculated may be one change behind (e.g., if cell B11 has a formula containing a reference to cell B40, then when SuperCalc runs through the calculations for the spreadsheet, B11 will be recalculated first, using a potentially old value of B40: B40 will have its new value recalculated shortly, but not in time for its new value to be reflected correctly in B11). Lay out the mathematical logic in sequence, to save a recalculation.

There are lots of ways of becoming an expert at automating the bureaucracy's fibrillation, so don't give up when your first few tries fail. It gets to be easier and more fun as you go. The ultimate thrill is when you get so good at it, your boss comes to you for advice on how to structure the next year's budget process!

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	XYZ MARKETING/SALES BUDGET	REV. 1/3/83	FILE:MKTBGT1.cal	MARKETING/SALES EXPENSE BUDGET						
2	*****									
3	INPUT VARIABLES - CORPORATE	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	TOTAL	*****	FORMULA COMMENTS*****	(FORMULAS FOR COLUMN C - "QTR 2")	
4	PRODUCT REVENUES	1272	1696	2120	3393	8482	92%	rev. split by qtr: .15,.20,.25,.4	.2 * F4	
5	SERVICE REVENUES	104	138	173	277	692	8%	rev. split by qtr: .15,.20,.25,.4	.2 * F5	
6	TOTAL REVENUES	1298	1731	2164	3462	8655		estimate split by qtr: .15,.20,.25,.4	.2 * F6	
7	*****									
8	INPUT VARIABLES: MARKETING/SALES									
9	QUOTA/SALESREP (SHIPMENTS)	400	400	450	450			estimate based upon XYZ experience	400	
10	PERSONNEL									
11	SALESREPS	3	4	5	8			total revenues/quota	C6 / C9	
12	SALES MANAGERS	2	2	2	3			salesreps/4	1 + (C11 / 4)	
13	MARKETING	3	3	3	4			2 + salesreps/4	2 + (C11 / 4)	
14	MARKETING MANAGERS	2	2	2	2			1 + marketing/3	1 + (C13 / 4)	
15	CLERICAL SUPPORT	4	4	4	5			1 + (managers + offices)	C14 + C18 + 1	
16	TOTAL PERSONNEL	13	15	16	22				SUM (C11 : C15)	
17										
18	NUMBER OF SALES OFFICES	1	1	1	2			number of salesreps * .3	C11 * .3	
19										
20	ANNUAL SALARY ESTIMATES	REP	SLSMGR	MKT	MKTGR	SUPPT		estimate based upon XYZ experience	SLSMGR	
21		45	60	30	45	16			60	
22	*****									
23	EXPENSE BUDGET- MARKETING/SALES							(notes below indicate annual amounts)		
24	PERSONNEL EXPENSES									
25	SALARIES	119	139	148	203	609		sum #'s of employee types * salaries	((C11*B21)+(C12*C21)+(C13*D21)+(C14*E21)+(C15*F21))/4	
26	FRINGES (25%)	30	35	37	51	152		25% of salaries	C25 * .25	
27	EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT	5	6	6	8	25		employees * \$1500	(C16 * 1.5) / 4	
28	RECRUITING & RELOCATION	2	2	1	4	9		(1/3 average salary) * (new employees/4)	(.33 * (C25 / C16)) * ((C16 - B16) / 4)	
29	SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES	156	181	192	267	796			SUM (C25 : C28)	
30	OFFICE & EQUIPMENT EXPENSES									
31	FACILITIES	6	7	8	10	31		(employees * \$1500) + (sls.off. * \$4000)	((C16 * 1.5) + (C18 * 4)) / 4	
32	OFFICE SUPPLIES	4	4	4	6	18		employees * \$1080	(C16 * 1.08) / 4	
33	EQUIPMENT RENTAL	1	1	1	2	5		employees * \$320	(C16 * .32) / 4	
34	DEPRECIATION & REPAIRS	5	5	5	7	22		\$6,000 + (personnel * \$960)	(6 + (C16 * .96)) / 4	
35	FREIGHT & POSTAGE	3	3	4	7	17		0.2% of revenue	C6 * .002	
36	TELEPHONE & TWX	8	9	10	13	40		employees * \$2400	(C16 * 2.4) / 4	
37	OTHER	1	2	2	2	7		employees * \$400	(C16 * .4) / 4	
38	SUBTOTAL OFF. & EQUIP. EXPENSES	27	32	34	47	140			SUM (C31 : C37)	
39	ACTIVITY EXPENSES									
40	TRAVEL & LIVING	20	25	26	38	109		(salesreps + managers) * \$12000	((C11 + C12 + C14) * 12) / 4	
41	OUTSIDE SERVICES	13	17	22	35	87		1% of revenues	C6 * .01	
42	BUSINESS MEETINGS	9	10	9	17	45		(new reps * \$2000) + (tot.people * \$2000)	((C11 - B11) * 2) + ((C16 * 2) / 4)	
43	MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS	38	47	55	80	220		\$48000 + (1.75% rev.) + (reps * \$4000)	(48 / 4) + (C6 * .0175) + ((C11 * 4) / 4)	
44	MISCELLANEOUS	13	17	22	35	87		1% of revenues	C6 * .01	
45	SUBTOTAL ACTIVITY EXPENSES	93	116	133	204	546			SUM (C40 : C44)	
46										
47	TOTAL	276	329	360	518	1482			C29 + C38 + C45	
48	% OF REVENUES	21	19	17	15	17			(C47 / C6) * 100	
49	*****									

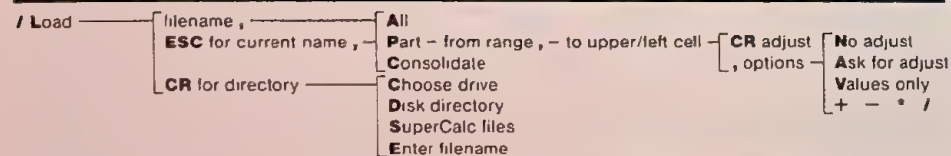
Making the Most of a Memory Limitation: Consolidate!

Those of you that have been ambushed by that most dreaded of all problems, "MEMORY FULL", will be happy to know that salvation is at hand, contained within the powerful capabilities of SuperCalc² and SuperCalc³. Even though they can't leap tall buildings at a single bound, SuperCalc² and SuperCalc³ can help you break large spreadsheets into smaller, more manageable ones, by allowing you to consolidate multiple files of data resident on the disk, easily. They can do it for selected parts of the data, by adding, subtracting, multiplying, or dividing cells on a disk file to or from cells in memory (the current spreadsheet).

As an example, let's assume that the previous sample spreadsheet (XYZ Corporation—Marketing/Sales budget) is one of four in the company. The other three are budget spreadsheets for the Manufacturing, General & Administration, and Development departments.

Naturally, it would be convenient to have all four spreadsheets on a single file so that a consolidated financial "rollup" could be built for the company, showing total corporate expenses budgeted for the year. However, five spreadsheets approximately the size of the marketing/sales department's would easily overrun the maximum memory size available on most small computer systems. Therefore, we will utilize the powerful consolidation features of SuperCalc² or SuperCalc³ to deal with four separate spreadsheets in order to generate the fifth spreadsheet (the corporate summary).

Since the consolidation function is contained within the Load command, it would be appropriate to review the new capabilities that the expanded /Load offers, as diagrammed below;



Before you go charging off to start consolidating, one more thing must be considered: a "consolidation mask". When SuperCalc² consolidates a source (file on disk) cell with a destination (file in memory—and on the CRT) cell, it does some certain things with blanks—on purpose. There are four cases to consider:

- A blank spreadsheet (destination) cell and a blank disk (source) cell result in a consolidated blank cell.
- A blank spreadsheet cell and a non-blank disk file cell result in a consolidated blank cell (here's where the blank on the spreadsheet becomes a mask).
- A non-blank spreadsheet cell and a blank disk file cell result in a consolidated cell that is the same as the original spreadsheet cell.
- A non-blank spreadsheet cell and a non-blank disk file cell result in a consolidated spreadsheet cell that contains the product of the specified operation (+ - * /) on the values contained in the source and destination cells (e.g., if the spreadsheet cell started out with a value of 5, the disk file cell had a value of 2, and addition was specified, the operation would result in a spreadsheet cell with the value of 7).

DISK	SPREADSHEET	Blank	Formula*
		Blank	Blank
	Blank	A) Blank	B) Blank
	Formula*	C) Spreadsheet Content	D) Spreadsheet + Disk File Value

What this means is that any blank destination spreadsheet cell will remain blank, no matter how many or what kind of operations you specify. This is a powerful capability called "masking" which allows you to set up your consolidation spreadsheet with all of the appropriate titles and labels, and then select, or "mask" off, specified cells for inclusion or exclusion in the consolidation process: if you want the cell to be included in consolidation operations, make sure it starts off as a non-blank cell in your initial spreadsheet "mask".

Taking the XYZ Corporation's budgeting needs as an example, let's assume four separate spreadsheet files as follows, with a requirement to produce a fifth, the corporate summary budget, and a sixth, the masking spreadsheet:

B:MKTBTGT1.CAL—the marketing/sales spreadsheet

B:MFGBTGT1.CAL—the manufacturing spreadsheet

B:DEVBGT1.CAL—the development spreadsheet

B:G&ABGT1.CAL—the general/administrative spreadsheet.

We need another file to begin consolidating: the corporate summary mask. We will call it:

B:SUMBGT1.MSK—the corporate summary spreadsheet mask

This mask will be the starting point in the creation of the final corporate summary spreadsheet called:

B:SUMBGT1.CAL—the corporate summary budget spreadsheet

Making the summary spreadsheet mask is relatively easy: simply call up one of the others (say MKTBTGT1.CAL), and edit it to reflect the titles and labels required, placing zeros in all cells that will be a part of the consolidation operation (remember, if a mask spreadsheet cell is a blank, it will stay that way throughout any consolidation efforts). In this case, we will assume that only the EXPENSE BUDGET portion is required (lines 23:54 in the previous example), plus a listing at the top of PRODUCT REVENUES, SERVICE REVENUES, TOTAL REVENUES, and TOTAL PERSONNEL.

The SuperCalc commands to build the mask (starting with MKTBGT1.CAL) are:

KEYSTROKES	COMMENT
/L B: MKTBGT1, A	Load MKTBGT1 to start mask building, File assumed to be on DRIVE B
= A1,	Go to cell A1
" XYZ SUMMARY BUDGET	Retitle worksheet
= B1,	Change revision date
" Rev 11/10/84	
= D1,	
" File: SUMBGT1. cal	Change file name
= A7,	Go to ***** border
/DR 7: 15,	Delete row 7 through 15
/IR,	Add a blank row
/DR 9: 13	Delete down to ***** border
= A10	Go to EXPENSE BUDGET title
" EXPENSE BUDGET-CORPORATE SUMMARY	Retitle
/D C G: I,	Delete notes (if you have any)
/P B4: F6	Protect REVENUE (no consolidation)
= B8	Load masking zero into B8
Ø	Enter zero
/R B8, B12: B16	Replicate zeroes down to SUBTOTAL
/R B8, B18: B25	Replicate zeroes down to SUBTOTAL
/R B8, B27: B32	Replicate zeroes down to SUBTOTAL
/R B8, B34: B35	Replicate zeroes for TOTAL and percentage
/R B8: B35, C8: F8	Replicate to other columns
/B F8,	This cell should be blank-N/A
/S B: SUMBGT1. MSK, A	Save mask on disk

The summary spreadsheet mask looks like this: (NOTE: the filename at the top right, SUMBGT1.CAL, is in actuality the name of the spreadsheet yet to be constructed (consolidated), not the name of this mask file, which is SUMBGT1.MSK)

Now that we have set up the spreadsheet mask, the actual consolidation process is simple and straightforward:

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	XYZ SUMMARY BUDGET	REV 11/10/84	File: SUMBGT1.cal			
2	*****					
3	INPUT VARIABLES - CORPORATE	QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	TOTAL
4	PRODUCT REVENUES	1272	1696	2120	3393	8482
5	SERVICE REVENUES	104	138	173	277	692
6	TOTAL REVENUES	1298	1731	2164	3462	8655
7						
8	TOTAL PERSONNEL	0	0	0	0	
9	*****					
10	EXPENSE BUDGET - CORPORATE SUMMARY					
11	PERSONNEL EXPENSES					
12	SALARIES	0	0	0	0	0
13	FRINGES (25%)	0	0	0	0	0
14	EMPLOYEE DEVELOPMENT	0	0	0	0	0
15	RECRUITING & RELOCATION	0	0	0	0	0
16	SUBTOTAL PERSONNEL EXPENSES	0	0	0	0	0
17	OFFICE & EQUIPMENT EXPENSES					
18	FACILITIES	0	0	0	0	0
19	OFFICE SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0
20	EQUIPMENT RENTAL	0	0	0	0	0
21	DEPRECIATION & REPAIRS	0	0	0	0	0
22	FREIGHT & POSTAGE	0	0	0	0	0
23	TELEPHONE & TWX	0	0	0	0	0
24	OTHER	0	0	0	0	0
25	SUBTOTAL OFF. & EQUIP. EXPENSES	0	0	0	0	0
26	ACTIVITY EXPENSES					
27	TRAVEL & LIVING	0	0	0	0	0
28	OUTSIDE SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0
29	BUSINESS MEETINGS	0	0	0	0	0
30	MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS	0	0	0	0	0
31	MISCELLANEOUS	0	0	0	0	0
32	SUBTOTAL ACTIVITY EXPENSES	0	0	0	0	0
33						
34	TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0
35	% OF REVENUES	0	0	0	0	0
36	*****					

1. Load the spreadsheet mask:

/Z Y Clear working space (if you've got something else in there)
/L B: SUMBGT1. MSK, A, Load the summary spreadsheet mask

2. Add the personnel data from each department's worksheet:

/L B: MKTBGT1, PB16: E16, B8, + Add mkt/sales personnel
/L B: MFGBGT1, PB16: E16, B8, + Ditto for manufacturing
/L B: DEVBGT1, PB16: E16, B8, + Ditto for development
/L B: G&ABGT1, PB16: E16, B8, + Ditto for Gen. & Admin.

3. Add the expense data from each department's worksheet:

/L B: MKTBGT1, PB24: F48, B11, + Add mkt/sales expenses
/L B: MFGBGT1, PB24: F48, B11, + Ditto for manufacturing
/L B: DEVBGT1, PB24: F48, B11, + Ditto for development
/L B: G&ABGT1, PB24: F48, B11, + Ditto for Gen. & Admin.

4. Save the consolidated spreadsheet

/S B: SUMBGT1, A Save in B: SUMBGT1.CAL

There, you have now taken four separate spreadsheets and consolidated them into one summary spreadsheet, utilizing a separate summary mask spreadsheet, thus adding up to a total of six spreadsheet files altogether. Easy, wasn't it?

Your Local Friendly SuperCalc Robot: The Execute Command.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a robot around to do all of the dull repetitive drudgery in working with SuperCalc applications? Just think: once the robot was properly trained on the repetitive spreadsheet operations, you could devote your time to designing ever more clever and challenging spreadsheets, working with other programs, or working on improving your productivity.

Well, don't fret too much; SuperCalc has something almost as good: it doesn't take much power, doesn't break down, and it's free! It's called the Execute command.

Surprised? Don't feel bad, a lot of people don't know how to use it either; and with a name like execute, who wants to?

The Execute function should be renamed to something like "Gopher", or "Can do", or "Aye aye, Sir", because it's really a very obedient servant that never gives you any lip. The word "execute" is old-fashioned computerese, and was around a long time before personal computers (which is probably why it's named that way in SuperCalc). In actuality, Execute is simply a way for you to take the repetitive things you have to do on an ongoing basis, create a special file somewhere (an Execute file), give that file a name ("Sam"), and the next time that same sequence of things needs to be done again, say to SuperCalc, "Hey, I'm tired of this stuff, ask Sam for instructions and then come see me". That's just about all there is to it.

When would anyone want to do that? Well, there are several kinds of functions that lend themselves well to this kind of automation, including:

DEMONSTRATIONS—you want to set up a nifty presentation, "live" on your CRT, to show off your latest clever spreadsheet application—with or without human intervention.

AUTOMATED FORMS DATA ENTRY—you want to set up a standard spreadsheet format and then have some other person enter a lot of data by following a simple series of instructions on the screen (without worrying about inadvertently destroying your spreadsheet).

REPETITIVE CONSOLIDATIONS—you have a number of spreadsheet consolidation operations that need running every week or month, that are summaries of daily spreadsheets.

REPETITIVE CONSTRUCTION—you have several spreadsheets that need to be constructed in essentially the same way.

CUSTOM SUPERCALC COMMANDS—you find yourself using one sequence of commands over and over again in normal SuperCalc use. Why not make up your own commands!

These are all examples of operations that the Execute command can automate for you easily—once you know how.

To make the Execute command work, you need only three things: a list of the commands you would enter if you were doing it manually (the Execute file), a name for the file, so you can call upon it to operate ("Sam"), and a way to tell it to start (/X, the Execute command).

The command is simple: **/X filename**. You can also enter an Execute file automatically when you invoke SuperCalc, with the operating system command: **SC2 filename**. Usually the filename has the extension ".XQT" to identify it as an Execute command file on the disk directory. Thus, "Sam" would look like "SAM.XQT", or "B:SAM.XQT" on the disk directory, even though it only needs to be called "SAM" or "B:SAM" in the Execute command string.

The command sequence itself must look exactly like the list of commands you would enter if you were doing it manually, except that you don't need to indicate the carriage return (CR), since SuperCalc assumes one exists at the end of the command line. Other special character representations are:

CHARACTER	INTERPRETATION
.	up arrow or ctrl-E
>	right arrow or ctrl-D
<	left arrow or ctrl-S
v	down arrow or ctrl-X
ctrl-D	pause 1/2 second in execution
&	suspend execution till another &

Use of the ampersand is only available in SuperCalc 2 and SuperCalc 3.

Let's try a simple example: assume you are the XYZ marketing man and you have periodic requests for copies of the latest budget. You decide to use Execute to automate the process. The commands you would use manually are:

/LB.MKTBGT1.A	Load the marketing budget
/ODALL.SW132.P	Use /O to set up 132 columns and print

You construct this small two command file and call it "PBUDGET", storing it away as an ASCII file (same as .PRN file) in "PBUDGET.XQT". Then all you have to do when you get a hurried request for a copy of the latest budget, is get the operating system prompt and command: **SC2 PBUDGET**. SuperCalc does the rest.

Let's take a bigger practical example: assume that the XYZ CORPORATION SUMMARY EXPENSE BUDGET utilized in the previous article needed to be updated and run every month. Obviously, doing the consolidation operation every month by hand could get to be a little tedious. So, we'll beat the problem by automating the process with our friendly Execute command as follows:

1. Pick a name for the process—how about "SUMMARY.XQT"
2. Generate a list of commands—We can use SuperCalc to generate the list by putting the command sequence in column A, using the text identifier ("), and then getting rid of the border and storing the list away in a file named "SUMMARY.XQT". The command sequence to do this is below

COMMAND	COMMENTS
/ZY	Initial setup to build command file
/FGTL35	Clear workspace
	Format—global, text left, 35 char.
	Global Tab On—build commands
/ZY	Clear workspace
"/LB:SUMBGT1.MSK,A	Load the summary spreadsheet mask
"/LB:MKTBGT1.PB16:E16.B8,+	Add mktg/sales personnel
"/LB:MFGBGT1.PB16:E16.B8,+	Ditto for manufacturing
"/LB:DEVBGT1.PB16:E16.B8,+	Ditto for development
"/LB:G&ABGT1.PB16:E16.B8,+	Ditto for Gen. & Admin.
"/LB:MKTBGT1.PB24:F54.B11,+	Add mktg/sales expenses
"/LB:MFGBGT1.PB24:F54.B11,+	Ditto for manufacturing
"/LB:DEVBGT1.PB24:F54.B11,+	Ditto for development
"/LB:G&ABGT1.PB24:F54.B11,+	Ditto for Gen. & Admin.
"/SB:SUMBGT1.OA	Save in B/SUMBGT1.CAL
(Store Command file)	
/GB	Remove border
/ODALL,DB:SUMMARY.XQT	Output command file in ASCII to disk
/SB:SUMMARY.CAL,A	Store .CAL file for future modification

A couple of notes to clarify some of the fancy moves we just went through:

Notice that when you put the command file away on the disk, you have to use the output command (/O). This is because if you save the command file with the /S command, it won't work when you try to "execute" it (you get a "FORMULA ERROR" message). That is because SuperCalc normally stores files on the disk in binary code, yet the Execute command expects to see an ASCII command file. Since the output command creates a print file in ASCII, what you do is create a special print file called "B:SUMMARY.XQT", which you don't print; you output it to the disk so you can get an Execute file in ASCII.

Storing the spreadsheet you used to generate the command file (/S) is a good practice: the .CAL file is then available so you can edit the command sequence at a later time.

The command sequence to invoke B:SUMMARY.XQT is:

```
/XB:SUMMARY    from within SuperCalc, or
SC2 B:SUMMARY  from the operating system
prompt
```

SuperCalc treats the end of a command line as a carriage return. However, there are many commands that call for carriage returns within the command sequence; these are shown above as commas, since SuperCalc usually interprets commas the same as carriage returns, and since commands broken up over several lines are difficult for people to read. In the few cases where SuperCalc interprets a comma differently from a carriage return, the comma always leads to more choices to be made before the command can begin, whereas the carriage return at that point means, "start now, I'm done choosing".

Of course, before you build an Execute file, you should be well advised to step through the commands manually at least once, to make sure you got it right: otherwise, when you turn your local friendly "robot" loose, you might not get what you bargained for (the Execute command only does exactly what you tell it to do—right or wrong).

Another example of a powerful application of the Execute command is a scrolling presentation: that's where the bottom part of the screen is used to present the spreadsheet information, while the top part of the screen (horizontal window split) scrolls with it, presenting a text description of what's going on. It sounds difficult, but is really not; the secret is to construct the display spreadsheet (bottom part) and the textual description (top) on two separate parts of the spreadsheet, then use successive "GO TO" commands to scroll both top and bottom parts in the proper sequence.

Assume you want to construct a simple presentation to show off your XYZ marketing/sales budget. The budget sections will scroll by on the bottom, while a small textual description scrolls in sync on the top.

Since this is going to be an informal desktop demonstration, the timing is difficult to estimate. Therefore, the demo will have "&" pauses embedded in it to have each step under your control (e.g., you will have to

type "&" every time you want to go to the next step). If you wanted timed pauses, you would create the Execute file on SuperWriter or another text editor, and use Control-D's.

To build this little demo, load B:MKTBTGT1.CAL and put the following text in column A (at the line numbers specified):

```
=A70 " THIS IS THE MARKETING/SALES BUDGET.
=A72 " NOTICE HOW IT IS CONSTRUCTED IN MODULAR SECTIONS.
=A74 " THIS SECTION IS CALLED THE INPUT SECTION AND CONTAINS ALL OF THE
=A75 " VARIABLES THAT MIGHT CHANGE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
=A76 " THE REAL SUBJECT OF INTEREST IS THE SECTION LABELED " EXPENSE BUDGET. "
=A78 " AS YOU CAN SEE, MARKETING/SALES WILL ONLY SPEND
=A79 " 17% OF REVENUES THIS YEAR.
=A80 " PRETTY GOOD. DON'T YOU THINK ?
```

Next, set the demo spreadsheet up so that when it is loaded, it will be at the right place, with windows operating and borders off:

```
/GB          Clear borders
=A1          Go to top of spreadsheet
=A3          Select window boundary to leave two lines at the top
/WH          Invoke a horizontal window
=A1          Go to top of spreadsheet
;           Get to top one
=A70         Line it up with message
;           Get cursor out of the way
/SB:DEM01,A  Store initial spreadsheet as B:DEM01
```

Now that you have the demo spreadsheet set up so that when it's loaded it will be ready to go; the only thing left to do is build the Execute command string. When you are done, the command string should look like this and be an ASCII file labeled "B:DEMO.XQT":

```
/ZY          Clear spreadsheet
/LB:DEM01,A  Load demo spreadsheet
&           Waiting for keyboard entry
; =A72       Get next message, "NOTICE HOW..."
; =A18       Move to spreadsheet window and scroll
; =A35       Scroll some more
&           Waiting for keyboard entry
; =A74       Get next message, "THIS SECTION IS..."
; =A1        Move to INPUT SECTION
& ; =A76     Wait for keyboard, then next message, "THE REAL SUBJECT IS..."
; =A23       Move to EXPENSE BUDGET
; =A40       Move to bottom of EXPENSE BUDGET
& ; =A78     Wait for keyboard, then next message, "AS YOU CAN SEE..."
, & ;A80     Wait for keyboard, then final, "PRETTY GOOD, DON'T..."
;
```

Now that you have built your little scrolling presentation, try it and watch it move. This is what you should see on your screen at the beginning of your demo:

```
THIS IS THE MARKETING/SALES BUDGET.
XYZ MARKETING/SALES BUDGET REV. 1/3/83   FILE:MKTBTGT1.cal
*****
INPUT VARIABLES - CORPORATE   QTR 1   QTR 2   QTR 3   QTR 4   TOTAL
PRODUCT REVENUES              1272   1696   2120   3393   8482
SERVICE REVENUES              104    138    173    277    692
TOTAL REVENUES                 1298   1731   2164   3462   8655
*****
INPUT VARIABLES: MARKETING/SALES
QUOTA/SALESREP (SHIPMENTS)    400    400    450    450
PERSONNEL
SALESREPS                      3      4      5      8
SALES MANAGERS                 2      2      2      3
MARKETING                      3      3      3      4
MARKETING MANAGERS             2      2      2      2
CLERICAL SUPPORT               4      4      4      5
TOTAL PERSONNEL                13     15     16     22
```

The Execute function can easily be viewed as a way to build your own customized SuperCalc commands. What more could you ask for...?

For SuperCalc Users

SuperCalc "Setup" Option Gives You Standout Printouts

Are you getting the most out of your printer? By following the simple procedures outlined here, you can use SuperCalc spreadsheets to turn on your printer's special attributes—like compressed print, expanded print or enhanced printing.

What you do is to send the spreadsheet sections you want to the printer by using the /Output command with the Setup option.

When you enter the /Output command, followed by Display, and a range specification, you'll see four options:

P(rinter), S(etup), C(onsole) or D(isk)

Press S and a setup menu appears with these choices:

L(ength), W(idth), S(etup), A(uto FF)*, D(ouble Space)*, or P(rint)

Press S a second time to send Manual setup codes and get this prompt:

Enter codes (CR when done):

You should note that at this point anything you type will be sent directly to the printer. So be sure it's connected and "on-line." Also, because the commands are going straight to the printer, you will NOT see the characters you enter on your screen. And, due to the flexibility needed in sending control codes, the HELP key and CANCEL key (CTRL-Z or the F2 on the IBM PC) will not function here, since these codes may be required to turn on a certain attribute in your printer.

To find the code you need, refer to the ASCII Conversion Chart included in this issue of SuperNews. Your printer manual probably contains a section that lists special functions. Next to this list you're likely to find the HEXIDECIMAL (HEX) and/or the DECIMAL values needed to activate the function you want. By referring to the ASCII chart, you can convert that number value to the ASCII code.

For example, some Epson printer manuals instruct you to "Turn on compressed character mode" by entering a HEX oF or a DECIMAL 15. Our chart shows this converts to a CTRL-O. Therefore, after entering the "S" for the manual setup option, you must enter a CTRL-O followed by a carriage return to terminate the control-code string.

When you enter the code, remember it is going straight to the printer, so you won't

see it on the screen. Also note that to enter a Control character you must hold down the CTRL key at the same time you press the other character. It's similar to using the shift key. If your attribute requires you to enter Escape followed by a character, you need only press the ESC key, release it and press the next character.

After entering the Control character pressing CR you can change the width/length of the page or the print from the menu selections.

You should keep a couple of other things in mind when using the Setup option. First, you can send up to eight characters in a string. (For example: CTRL-N, CTRL-O and six others.) These should be entered one after the other with NOTHING in between—no commas, periods, or carriage returns. Second, these attributes are in effect until you change them, exit SuperCalc, or turn off the printer.

With your printer manual, the instructions above, and the conversion chart provided in this issue, you should be able to get your printer to give you some outstanding printouts. If you want to use them regularly, you can modify the SuperCalc defaults with the INSTALL program. See the article on this page for more information.

**These setup options are only in SuperCalc2 and SuperCalc3.*

INSTALL/INSTALLS Twin Programs Make Setup Options Automatic in SuperCalc

NOTE to SuperCalc2 and SuperCalc3 users: This article discusses the programs for SuperCalc, but your versions of the INSTALL/INSTALLS programs are similar.

If you like the results you get from the SuperCalc Setup option, you can use INSTALL/INSTALLS to change these attributes in your SuperCalc program so that you will get the desired results every time you use SuperCalc.

Or you can make other changes such as screen size. These will be in effect until you change them again with INSTALL/INSTALLS. Some can be changed again for a single SuperCalc session with the Setup option.

If you have the INSTALL program:

Start the program, then follow the prompts until you reach the menu with all terminals listed. After selecting your terminal, choose your option letter Z (edit printer and terminal data).

Next, you'll see these prompts:

The current printer initialization string is XXXXX.

Do you wish to change this data? (y/n)

If you answer yes, this message appears:

Enter the number of hex bytes in data string.

The maximum number of bytes allowed is 9.

Enter number of bytes.

In the Setup Option article, you saw oF as the HEX value that activates condensed print in the Epson printer. oF is one HEX byte. Therefore, you should enter 1 (one) as the number of bytes if you only want to turn on this attribute. Next you will see:

Enter new value in Hex:

You should type the HEX value at this point. If you were using the Epson condensed print example, you would enter oF.

Another list of modifications you can make now appears. Enter option letter X (exit to menu). With the new set of options shown at this point, enter option letter A to disk.

When it prompts you with:

Are all modifications completed? (y/n)

Answer: y

Now your SuperCalc will turn on the special attribute of your printer each time you access it.

If you have INSTALLS program:

INSTALLS comes preconfigured for your computer and does not have the list of terminals that INSTALL has. This makes the prompts slightly different.

After starting the program, follow the prompts to the "C" option.

Enter option letter C (edit printer initialization string).

At the prompt, enter the HEX value of the attribute you want activated.

(In the INSTALLS program you need not enter the number of bytes you want to enter.)

After entering the HEX value, enter a carriage return. Then enter option letter: X (Exit to previous menu).

Then, enter option letter: E (Save SuperCalc on disk).

When it prompts you:

All modifications complete? (y/n)

Answer: y

That's all there is to it.

Handy SuperCalc Tip Lets You Add Rows to Top or Bottom of Sum Range

Here's a way to maintain the accuracy of your sum where you add delete, or move rows. This is especially useful when setting up a pre-configured worksheet or "template."

In setting up a template, it is sometimes difficult to know in advance how many rows are needed in a SUM construction. For example, when inserting a new row into a sum, the insertion may fall outside the range of the SUM command. To avoid this, add two lines or open spaces to your worksheet set up, as show below.

	A	B
1	ITEMS	VALUES
2		
3	Prod 5	200
4	Prod 10	100
5		
6	TOTAL	SUM (B2:B5)

With the worksheet set up this way, you can insert rows as needed anywhere between the lines. Even though a row is inserted below row 4 or above row 3, it is still within the range used by the SUM command.

	A	B
1	ITEMS	VALUES
2		
3	Prod 1	150
4	Prod 5	200
5	Prod 10	100
6	Prod 11	150
7		
8	TOTAL	SUM (B2:B7)
9		TOTAL would be 600

after the insertion

Year-to-date Values Made Easy With SuperCalc Flag Method

Creating a recalculation flag—a tic mark or notch that can be added to your worksheet—is the easiest way we've seen to keep Year-to-Date totals. Let's see how this can be done. First, we'll create a sample worksheet. Then, we'll make it work. But, keep in mind, all you're really doing is telling your computer when to calculate or not calculate.

This is a simple example that can be easily added to your worksheet. First, set the calculation mode to Manual before doing any kind of "add a cell to itself" or Year-to-Date calculation.

Here goes. Type:
/GM

Then, enter these values into your worksheet:

	A	B	C
1	Recalculation Flag:		1
2			
3	Monthly Figure	YTD Total	
4			
5	1000	IF (C1, B5, A5 + B5)	

Instead of "Recalculation Flag," you could also call the feature "YTD Protect" or "Disable YTD Calculations."

To create the "tic mark" switch to a graph-ics format by typing:
/FEC1.*

Now you'll see a "*" in C1.

Note that B5 is the key to this procedure. Using an IF statement, we will update the YTD value (A5 + B5) or leave it alone (B5).

If the value in C1 is a 1 (true), then B5 will contain B5. However, if you change the value in C1 to 0 (false), the YTD calculation can be made (A5 + B5)

Let's see how it works:

1. Enter a new monthly value in A6, say 1500.
2. Enter 0 in C1 to enable calculation. The tic mark will disappear.
3. Press (!). The YTD is now updated.
4. Enter a 1 in C1 to disable calculation.

Remember, when you want to do the calculation you must remove the tic mark (0 in C1) and press the (!) key for manual calculation.

Then you must replace the tic mark (1 in C1) to protect it from recalculation. If "*" is showing in C1, it is safe to recalculate without disturbing the YTD value.

ASCII Codes

CONTROL		NUMBERS SYMBOLS		UPPER CASE		LOWER CASE	
NUL	DLE	SP	0	@	P	'	p
SOH	DC1	!	1	A	Q	a	q
STX	DC2	"	2	B	R	b	r
ETX	DC3	#	3	C	S	c	s
EOT	DC4	\$	4	D	T	d	t
ENQ	NAK	%	5	E	U	e	u
ACK	SYN	&	6	F	V	f	v
BEL	ETB	'	7	G	W	g	w
BS	CAN	(	8	H	X	h	x
HT	EM	)	9	I	Y	i	y
LF	SUB	*	:	J	Z	j	z
VT	ESC	+	;	K	[	k	{
FF	FS	,	<	L	\	l	|
CR	GS	-	=	M	]	m	}
SO	RS	.	>	N	^	n	~
SI	US	/	?	O	_	o	DEL (RUBOUT)

KEY

CTRL M	control character
CR	ASCII character
hex 0D	decimal 13

More for SuperCalc Users

How to Make Your Spreadsheets More Presentable: User Defined Formats

Both SuperCalc² and SuperCalc³ bring many new and powerful capabilities to the user; they also bring a little beauty. The beauty is a format option known as "User Defined Formats" (make up your own).

Those of you who have used SuperCalc extensively know that one of the things that was missing was the capability to automatically insert commas and dollar signs in the appropriate places: in fact, what was needed was an ability to put them in at all, automatic or not. Some people even went to the effort of "printing" SuperCalc files to the disk, just so they could call them up under Superwriter and insert those S's and ,s.

The new User-Defined format in SuperCalc² and SuperCalc³ is amazingly easy to use: you are allowed to design up to eight formats, labeled U1 to U8, by filling out a special format table using the "Define" option under the /F command. Once defined, the formats are stored away with the file, thus insuring that they will be around the next time you want to use that spreadsheet.

The command

/F D

leads you directly to the following User-Defined format table:

	User-Defined formats							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Floating \$	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Embedded Commas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Minus In ()	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Zero As Blank	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
%	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Decimal Places	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Scaling Factor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CTRL-Z to return to spreadsheet

All you have to do is specify the properties for each format you wish to define (by moving the cursor around in the table and responding to the prompts), and then assign the formats to the cells that you want to contain those properties. For example, if you had selected the default values in the table for format #1, you would assign it to a cell A33 by the command:

/FE A33, U1,

(which translates to /Format, Entry, A33, User-defined 1,)

Simple Definitions of User-Defined Formats

Floating \$: \$ symbol to precede left-most numeric character

Embedded commas: commas "," are placed between every third place to the left of the decimal point

Minus in (): parentheses are placed around negative numbers

Zero as Blank: 0 results are not displayed

%: after number is multiplied by 100, % symbol follows right-most character

Decimal Places: Controls digits to the right of the decimal point

Scaling Factor: Controls digits to the left of the decimal point

One of the nice things about this User-Defined option is that if you change the format table selections anytime after setting the spreadsheet up, the representations of the numbers in each formatted cell change automatically to definition.

There is a small price to pay for all of this capability, however: the column widths now have to be greater to allow for the extra characters. Since the User-Defined formats must reserve the left and right columns in the field for (), the left column for \$, columns for

commas, etc., you will find that simply setting the first User-Defined format to everything you want all over the spreadsheet, forces you to use column widths of 10 or 12 just to display 4 digit numbers—eg. (\$1,234.56). In addition, when mixing User-Defined formats with conventional formats, or even other User-Defined formats, you may have trouble getting columns to line up properly (e.g., if one cell is formatted for \$ and commas, and the one below it is formatted for \$, commas, and (), the one below will be offset one place to the left to allow for the possible use of the left bracket for negative numbers).

Fortunately, there is an easy solution to this problem: simply set up multiple User-Defined formats selecting only the capabilities you specifically want for each class of cells (don't try to get everything in one definition). It may take a little longer to format everything, but the end result will look professional, and will not call for overly wide columns.

To give you an idea of how the new User-Defined formats can look, below is an excerpt from the Plain Jane Burger's Income Statement. The User-defined formats table used to create this statement is at the top of the next page.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
		AUBURN	BAYSIDE	DOUGLAS	MILTON	TOTAL IN '000s	% of REV.
1							
2	REVENUE						
3	Burgers	7615	\$3,585	\$8,244	\$2,732.00	\$22.2	42.4%
4	Potatoes	3505	\$854	8,072	2,420.00	\$14.9	28.4%
5	Beverages	1727	\$6,309	3,547	3,650.00	\$15.2	29.1%
6							
7	TOTAL	12847	\$10,748	\$19,863	\$8,802.00	\$52.3	100.0%
8	REVENUE						
9							
10	EXPENSES						
11	Food	2955	\$2,042	\$4,193	\$1,771.23	\$11.0	20.97%
12	Serving	1713	\$1,433	2,648	1,173.60	\$7.0	13.33%
13	Rent	2285	\$2,075	2,986	2,880.20	\$10.2	19.57%
14	Other	4303	\$2,150	8,478	3,247.40	\$18.2	34.78%
15	Rebate	-70	(\$17)	(161)	(48.40)	(\$.3)	-.57%
16							
17	TOTAL	11186	\$7,683	\$18,144	\$9,024.03	\$46.00	88.09%
18	EXPENSES						
19							
20	PRE-TAX	1661	\$3,065	\$1,719	(\$222.03)	\$6.2	12.93%

The format table of User-Defined values used in this example is below:

	User-defined formats							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Floating \$	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	N	N
Embedded Commas	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
Minus in ()	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
Zero as Blank	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
%	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Decimal Places	2	0	0	2	2	1	1	2
Scaling factor	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0

Column B has been defined in the standard integer format (from original SuperCalc.)

Column C had been formatted with UD2 (dollar signs, commas and minuses in parentheses.)

To reduce the clutter of dollar signs, two UD formats are used in Column D. UD2 is used for the top and bottom of individual sections and UD3 (commas and minuses in parentheses) is used within sections.

Column E also uses two UD formats to reduce clutter. The two UD formats used, UD4 and UD5, differ from UD2 and UD3, respectively, only in their use of two decimal places to indicate dollars and cents.

Column F uses UD6 to illustrate scaling. A scaling factor of 3 means that all numbers in this column will be in thousands. Notice that with the wide column, the parentheses around the value in F15 stretch to the sides.

Column G is a demonstration of how percentages will look. The top half of the column is formatted with UD7 (percentage with one decimal place), and the bottom with UD8 (percentage with two decimal places). Because the values in each cell are multiplied by 100, to enter a number as a percentage, it must first be expressed in decimal notation. For example, the 42.4% in cell G3 could be entered as .424 or as the result of the formula 424/1000.

One thing to remember when using the /F command: successive formatting commands may result in a conflict of formats for a given cell. Thus, you must keep in mind the SuperCalc order of precedence:

1. Entry
2. Row
3. Column
4. Global

If you attempt to reformat a cell and it doesn't "take", it's probably because it had been previously formatted by a higher priority format command elsewhere on the spreadsheet. When this happens, simply use the "Entry" format choice: nothing is higher in precedence.

The advantage of the SuperCalc2 and SuperCalc3 User-defined formats, is that *you* get to define what's beautiful; SuperCalc gets to do all the work!

Simple Flowcharts with SuperCalc

It's easy to use SuperCalc to create simple box charts, such as flowcharts or tables of organization. You may think of SuperCalc only as the world's most advanced spreadsheet, but by using a collection of features unique to SuperCalc, you'll be able to build a simple flowchart—automatically.

The first thing you should do is call up a blank SuperCalc sheet and start to draw. The first shape will be a box.

KEYSTROKES

/FC3

= A1

"|-----|

= A2

"|

/RA2, A3: A5 cr

/CA1, A6 cr

/CA2: A5, H2 cr

= H3

"|---->

COMMENTS

Set all columns to a width of 3
Start at the top of the box
Start the side

Left side
Bottom
Right side
Get ready for...
An arrow

The next shape is a triangle. The "" will represent blank spaces.

= K1

Start at the top of triangle

"|-----|

= K2

Draw the left side

" ^ \

= K3

" ^ \

= K4

" ^ ^ \

= K5

" ^ ^ ^ \

= K6

" ^ ^ ^ ^ \

= K7

" ^ ^ ^ ^ ^ \

= M6

Draw the bottom

" ^ ^ /

Start the right side

= N5

" /

= N4

" ^ /

= N3

" ^ ^ /----->

Draw the arrow

= O2

" /

The triangle is complete

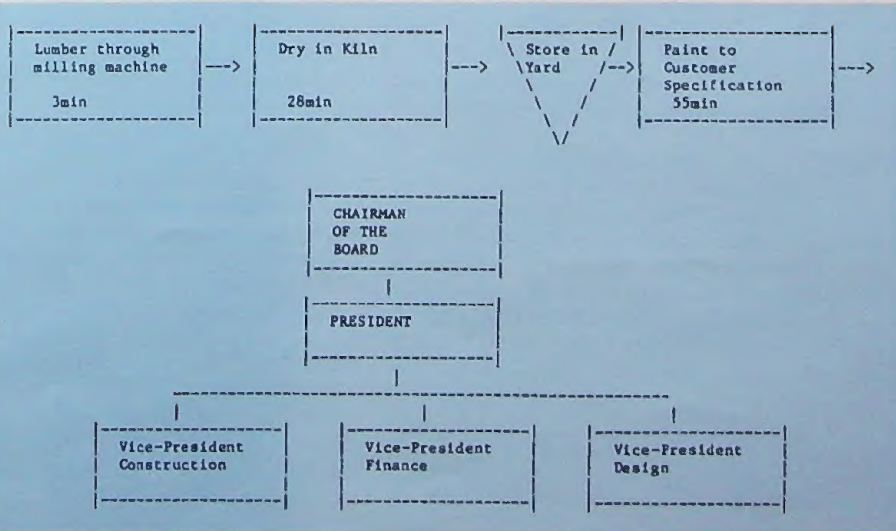
Before you go any further, save these shapes as a CAL file, CHART.cal. Your next step is to create Execute commands to place the right top corner of these shapes wherever you place your cursor on a spreadsheet. To do this these shapes must be stored on that spreadsheet.

To make a box, construct file BOX.xqt either using SuperCalc or a word processing program, such as SuperWriter. (Specific instructions for creating an Execute file are in your manual.) The contents of Box.xqt are: /CA1:H6,

To make a triangle use the same procedure to create TRI.xqt. The contents of TRI.xqt are: /CK1:O7,

Now, load CHART.cal and set your cursor where you want the flow to begin, let's say A20. Enter /XBOX, and watch SuperCalc draw. Move the cursor inside the box, B21, and now you'll be able to enter information inside a box that allows four lines of eighteen characters each. Enter /XTRI and your triangle will appear.

The steps you took in order to be able to use the Execute command to draw boxes and triangles can be modified for different shapes and purposes. We can't pretend that this is the most elegant way to draw charts, but if you're in a pinch and need a quick flow diagram, or an organization chart (see below), why not let SuperCalc do the work.



SuperNews Contest #1

Best Calendar-Building Template Wins Flight to Silicon Valley and Lunch with the SuperCalc Engineering Group

The Contest:

The best template will be the one which uses the fewest keystrokes to build a calendar once the first date of the year is given in the form of DATE (1,1,1984). The template must be able to construct a calendar for any year from 1901 to 2099. A template may consist of any number of .cal or .xqt files. Each calendar constructed must be in the format of the 1984 calendar below with each month shown separately.

Each keystroke used after the first date is given will count ten times as much as keystrokes used to construct .cal or .xqt files.

The Prize:

We will fly the winner round-trip from anywhere in the United States to our offices in Silicon Valley's San Jose where we will give the winner a tour of our facilities and lunch with the engineering group that created SuperCalc3.

How To Enter:

Your entry should be supplied on paper. If you also send your entry on disk, which would be greatly appreciated, please specify the format and system on which it was created. Your entry which must be postmarked

by December 31, 1983 should be sent to:

Contest #1
SuperNews
SORCIM
2310 Lundy Avenue
San Jose, CA 95131

The Fine Print

SORCIM will be the final judge of all entries. All entries become property of SORCIM. All SuperCalc users are eligible to enter except for employees of SORCIM. In case of a tie, the entry postmarked the earliest, wins.

1 9 8 4

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29			

MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sorcim Information

Current Versions

SuperCalc ³	Version 1.0
SuperCalc ²	Version 1.0
SuperCalc	Version 1.12H with SuperData Interchange
IBM PC only	Version 1.12H-1 with SuperData Interchange
SuperWriter	Version 1.01
SuperSpellGuard	Version 2.0

To find out your version number do a type of your SC.com or SC.cmd file.

For the CP/M 2.2 and MS-DOS operating systems: A>TYPE SC2.com.

For the CP/M 86 operating system:
A>TYPE SC2.cmd

Retail Price List

The currently suggested retail price for SORCIM products (all formats) is as follows:

SuperCalc ³	\$395.00
SuperCalc ²	\$295.00
SuperCalc	\$195.00
SuperWriter with SuperSpellGuard included	\$295.00
SuperSpellGuard	\$195.00

Attention: Template Makers

If you have developed an ingenious template or program that works together with SuperCalc or SuperWriter to solve practical problems, the Sorcim Access is interested in carrying your product.

For more information and an author's kit, contact:

Manager, Product Development
Sorcim Access
P.O. Box 32505
San Jose, CA 95152

Announcement

Effective July 1, 1983, Sorcim discontinued the sales of its Programming Tools. These include PASCAL/M™ and PASCAL/M-86™ (for Z80, 8080/8085 and 8086/8088 microprocessors) and TRANS-86™ (the 8086/8088 translator for existing 8080 and Z80 programs). Sorcim will continue to support these program development tools on a limited basis as long as the need exists.

Sorcim will now place its full emphasis on business applications software for the professional manager and engineer.

New Upgrade Procedure Offers Quicker Response, Less Frustrations

Requests for SuperCalc² upgrades were overwhelming. Response from all of our SuperCalc users was three times what we expected and it overloaded our entire phone system. This, in turn, caused frustration for those of you trying to phone us for our upgrade policy or technical support.

In order to serve you better, we have set up a mail order operation, the SORCIM ACCESS, to better manage the flow be-

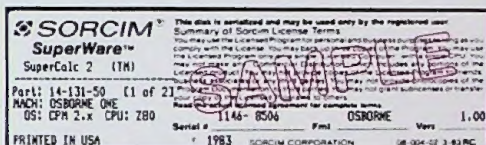
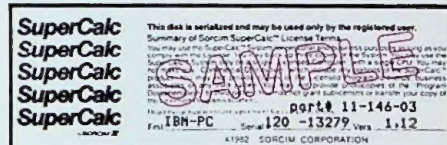
tween SORCIM and users of our software. SORCIM ACCESS will be responsible for processing all orders for upgrades and accessory products from end-users.

To upgrade your SuperCalc, simply use the order form in the SORCIM ACCESS catalog inserted in this issue of SUPER NEWS or call (408) 942-0771 and we'll mail you complete instructions.

Helping Us Help You

When contacting SORCIM, either by phone or mail, it is important to give us the entire serial number from your master disk-

ette. This number gives us information on the format (and often the machine) of your diskette. Below are some sample labels.



Software Engineers

Looking for Challenge & Innovation?

SORCIM CORPORATION is a rapidly growing company specializing in the development of Productivity software for microcomputer systems. SUPER-CALC, our financial planning spreadsheet, and SUPERWRITER, our word processing product, have set the industry standard for quality and reliability.

We've set some ambitious goals for future development of Productivity tools. We are currently in search of high caliber software professionals, and are looking for SOFTWARE PROJECT LEADERS & SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT ENGINEERS with the following qualifications:

- Well versed in modern software development methodology and structured programming/testing techniques
- Sound understanding of microcomputer operating system concepts
- Experience with Spreadsheet, Word Processor, Business Graphics, Data Base Management, or Communications software development.

These positions require a BS or MS in Computer Science and 2+ years professional software development experience.

In addition to a friendly, creative environment, we will compensate your specialized talents with an excellent salary and a competitive benefits package. If you meet the above qualifications, please send your resume and salary requirements to:

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VP Engineering
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